FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

31 DECEMBER 1986

Iran

U.S. Relations — The Iranian-U.S. talks at The Hague are not connected with the issue of U.S. hostages in Lebanon or with Robert McFarlane's secret trip to Tehran, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi stated in remarks cited by IRNA 31 December.

Stand on ICO Summit — In a 30 December meeting with the visiting ICO secretary general, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani asserted that it is "not right" for Iran to participate in the ICO summit in Kuwait, IRNA reported. Claiming that Kuwait is acting like an Iraqi province, he said there is little difference between holding the conference in Kuwait or in Iraq. Prime Minister Musavi likewise told the ICO official that Kuwait cannot guarantee the security of the meeting because Iraqi aircraft overfly its territory and Iraqi "terrorist" networks operate inside Kuwait, according to Tehran radio.

Karbala 4 Offensive — The head of Iran's War Information Headquarters commented on the recent offensive at a press conference reported by IRNA, stressing that Karbala 4 was a small-scale attack involving less than 6,000 Iranian troops. On the other hand, Mojahedin-e Khalq sources cited by the *Jordan Times* gave credence to Iraqi claims about Iranian casualties, asserting that over 35,000 Iranians were killed or wounded in the attack across the Shatt al-'Arab.

Israel

Former Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche denied a U.S. press report that he proposed the transfer of money from the Iran arms deal to the Nicaraguan contras. Speaking in a Jerusalem radio interview, Kimche said the story is "ridiculous and nonsense," and he said that Colonel Oliver North must be "trying to pass the blame, if he really said those things."

Egypt

Relations With Israel — Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid received Israeli Foreign Ministry Director General Avraham Tamir in Cairo 30 December, MENA reported, noting that they discussed ways to activate the peace process. 'Abd al-Majid said afterward that Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres will visit Egypt as soon as an agenda is prepared. An IDF radio report on the talks noted that Tamir was presented with new Egyptian ideas for peace in the Middle East.

Internal Affairs — MENA reported that opposition members withdrew from a People's Assembly session during which an amendment to the electoral law was approved. The leaders of the neo-Wafd group and the Socialist Labor Party complained that the new measure is not a radical reform and that insufficient time was allotted to discuss it. On the other hand, NDP deputies said the new bill will strengthen democracy by allowing independent candidates to run for elections separately from the party lists.

Earlier, in a 29 December statement broadcast by Cairo radio, Prime Minister 'Atif Sidqi told the Assembly that the government seeks a "constructive dialogue" with opposition parties. Noting the need to strengthen internal security, he said that a dialogue on this issue with parties holding various views will promote mutual understanding and strengthen national unity. Sidqi stressed that the authorities will spare no effort to improve the competence of the internal security forces to protect society from dangers threatening it. He also referred to the negotiations with the IMF during his lengthy policy review, stating that Egypt will not accept any conditions incompatible with its interests.

Lebanon

Palestinian officials based in Damascus welcomed the Amal Movement leader's cease-fire announcement but accused Amal forces of continuing to shell Palestinian camps in Beirut, according to Radio Monte Carlo.

Regarding the possibility of a Lebanese-Syrian summit, the Lebanese Forces Command Council stated that the agenda for a summit should include a timetable for the Syrian Army's withdrawal from Lebanon, Voice of Lebanon radio noted.

In another development, the "organization of the oppressed of the earth" stated that it has executed three Lebanese Jews who were kidnapped in Beirut last year, Beirut radio reported.

Libya and the USSR

JANA reported that the Soviet ambassador gave Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi a new year message from CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev.

Ndjamena radio warned of a "Soviet-Libyan plot" against Chad, asserting that the USSR has sent military experts into northern Chad to assist Libyan forces.

Sudan

Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi announced his government's intention to establish a high coordination council for southern Sudan headed by an independent southerner, SUNA reported. In remarks broadcast by Omdurman radio, he assured southerners that all Sudanese Muslims accept that Sudan is a multireligious society. Accusing the SPLA of issuing false reports about the course of the war in the south, he denied the SPLA's claim to have sunk a convoy of barges on the Nile.

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'Arafat on 'Alliance' Against Iraq, Camps War

JN301656 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has called on the Arabs to adopt a clear, frank stand to confront the Zionist-Iranian-imperialist alliance against Iraq and not to be satisfied with denunciatory statements only. In a statement to *Alif Ba'* magazine to be published tomorrow, Yasir 'Arafat said that the Zionist entity cannot imagine the Iraq-Iran war ending and that its senior officials and leaders affirm this belief, thus mirroring the Zionist fear of Iraq's victory. He added that what is taking place in the Arab arena is so serious that the Zionists are following this war daily, and there is a committee of senior officers in the Zionist army following it.

The PLO Executive Committee chairman also touched on the situation in the camps in Beirut and southern Lebanon. He said Palestinian and national Lebanese steadfastness has changed many equations. He affirmed that the plot is continuing and that it is aimed at the entire region, not only Lebanon.

'Arafat added that the Palestinian revolution would not have been isolated had Iraq not been preoccupied with its defensive war with Iran. 'Arafat explained the Syrian regime's role in what is taking place in Lebanon and the coordination between that regime and the Zionist entity to liquidate the Palestinian presence in Lebanon. He added that both parties support the agent Amal gangs and noted a remark by Yitzhaq Rabin, former enemy war minister [as heard], that he was not in favor of the collapse of Amal. 'Arafat also noted the role played by Syrian artillery, tanks, and intelligence together with the Lebanese Army 6th Brigade against the Palestinian camps. He said the camps war has confirmed Palestinian unity because everyone has fought under the PLO flag in all camps and in Maghdushah.

Palestinians React to Birri Cease-Fire Call

JN301858 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1740 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Text] [PNSF Chairman] Khalid al-Fahum has welcomed the announcement by attorney Nabih Birri, leader of the Amal Movement, about an immediate and complete cease-fire and the lifting of the siege of the camps. Al-Fahum said: We are looking forward to the implementation of this cease-fire and the abidance by it of all parties. We highly value the role Syria and Iran continue to play to avoid the bloodshed among the sons of the same trench. Al-Fahum added that the Palestinian revolution cannot forget the heavy sacrifices offered by the Lebanese people, particularly in southern Lebanon, in support of the Palestinian struggle. He said: We repeat once again that we are eager to restore fraternal militant relations among the Palestinian revolution, the Amal Movement, and the other Lebanese nationalist forces.

However, a spokesman for the Fatah uprising movement stated a few hours following Nabih Birri's announcement that elements of the Amal Movement and the Lebanese Army fiercely shelled the Shatila camp at 1000 this morning as the people were coming out of shelters. The spokesman said that as a result of this shelling there were many victims, including eight children. The spokesman warned Amal against continuing to use these methods.

A military spokesman for the PFLP also accused elements of Amal and the Lebanese Army 1st and 6th Brigades of exacerbating the military situation near the Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah camps. He said that the Shatila camp has been subjected to fierce and indiscriminate shelling since 1000 this morning. He added: This military escalation once again demonstrates the falseness of the claims by the Amal Movement leaders regarding their abidance by the cease-fire.

Dr Samir Ghawshah, leader of the Palestinian Popular Struggle Front, has also welcomed Nabih Birri's announcement. He said that he hopes this will be the prelude to a serious political discussion among the Palestinian national factions, Amal, and the Lebanese nationalist forces under Syria's auspices. Dr Ghawshah said the Palestinian factions remain committed to the Iranian initiative and to the efforts by friends and allies to end the bloodshed. He also called for not only lifting the siege of the Al-Rashidiyah camp but also of Shatila and Burj al-Barajinah.

Agree To Cease-fire

JN301927 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1815 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Guarded calm prevails in the Palestinian camp areas in Beirut and southern Lebanon. A Palestinian spokesman announced that the Palestinian defenders will adhere to the cease-fire agreement, affirming that the Palestinian defenders are trying to entrench the cease-fire comprehensively and definitively. The latest news reports from the Palestinian camps say that the Amal Movement militias have not adhered to a comprehensive cease-fire and that sporadic exchanges of fire and sniper fire are continuing in the Shatila camp area. Meanwhile, the tight siege around the Al-Rashidiyah camp in southern Lebanon continues.

'Abd al-Majid, Israeli Official Discuss Peace

NC301821 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1525 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Cairo, 30 Dec (MENA) — Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, Egyptian deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met today with Avraham Tamir, director general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, who is visiting Cairo.

The meeting was also attended by Israeli Ambassador in Cairo Moshe Sason and Egyptian Ambassador in Tel Aviv Muhammad Basyuni.

The officials discussed ways to stimulate the peace process in view of Israel's acceptance in principle of an international conference.

During the meeting Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid asserted the need for all parties to make efforts to hold an international conference, so that 1987 will be a year of negotiations to bring peace to the Middle East and a just solution to the Palestinian issue.

Following the meeting, Dr 'Abd al-Majid told reporters that Egypt believes comprehensive peace is in the interest of all parties and that Egypt is seeking to achieve such a peace.

He said that he discussed this at length with Avraham Tamir, asserting that Egypt's position is clear and that it is working for a peaceful settlement, advocating an international conference.

As to setting a date for Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' visit to Cairo, Dr 'Abd al-Majid said it will take place as soon as an agenda is prepared.

Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid also said that Israel's position is clear and remains as announced in Alexandria in September 1986, noting that this is a positive stand.

Avraham Tamir told reporters that his discussions today were fruitful. Asked about the date of Peres' visit to Cairo, he said: We have discussed this. He noted, however, that he cannot provide details. He pointed out that Peres has had an invitation to visit Cairo for several months.

Asked if there is a possibility of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's visiting Egypt, Tamir said: "I do not know."

Responding to a question about statements by President Husni Mubarak that there were new ideas for accelerating the peace process, Tamir said that this issue had been discussed, adding: I cannot reveal details about those ideas.

USSR Envoy Suggests 'High-Level' Economic Talks

PM301253 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 18 Dec 86 p 1

[Unattributed Report: "Soviet Ambassador Suggests Holding High-Level Meeting To Solve Economic Problems"]

[Text] The Soviet ambassador in Cairo has suggested to the Egyptian Foreign Ministry that a high-level political meeting be held between the Egyptian and Soviet prime ministers or between the two countries' foreign ministers. The proposed meeting would be to reach a final solution to the economic problems between the two countries. The third round of economic talks between the two countries ended last week. *Al-Wafd* has learned that the Soviet ambassador expressed to Egyptian Foreign Ministry officials Moscow's readiness to receive any Egyptian political official to discuss the problems between the countries. The ambassador stressed that development of political relations between the two countries would contribute effectively to the solution of the Egyptian-Soviet economic problems.

Mubarak Cables Soviet, PRC Leaders on New Year

NC311143 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1035 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Excerpt] Cairo, 31 Dec (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak has sent cables of congratulations to their majesties and excellencies the kings and leaders of countries that are celebrating the new year. He wished them all health and happiness and continued progress and prosperity for their peoples. He also expressed the hope that the new year will see more combined efforts to establish peace in the world and enable all peoples to enjoy security and stability. The president praised the relations of friendship and cooperation between Egypt and the peoples of their friendly and fraternal countries.

In his cable to Mikhail Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee secretary general, the president said: On this happy occasion, I stress my hope that the existing good relations between our two friendly countries, which we are both eager to see grow and develop, will become stronger and more extensive in the various fields of cooperation, in the common interest, and in the service of current international issues.

The president sent a similar cable to Andrey Gromyko, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman.

In his congratulations to PRC State Council Premier Zhao Ziyang and PRC President Li Xiannian, President Mubarak expressed his appreciation of China's support for the efforts to establish a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. He added that he hopes this effective role will continue until peace prevails in this vital region. This peace is linked to that of the world, and to its prosperity and stability. [passage omitted]

Iraqi Paper Interviews Egyptian Party Officials

JN251321 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1040 GMT 25 Dec 86

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Dec (INA) — Four Egyptian party leaders have asserted that Egypt, on popular and official levels, stands by Iraq in defending its sovereignty against Iranian aggression. This came in an interview held by the newspaper *Al-Jumhuriyah* with leaders of the Al-Ummah Party, The Al-Wafd Party, the Socialist Labor Party, and the National Progressive Unionist Party, which was published in its issue here today.

Ahmad al-Sabahi, leader of the Egyptian Al-Ummah Party, said: I refused to go to Damascus so as not to see the faces of the two killers, Hafiz Al-Asad and Nabih Birri, as well as all those who direct their weapons against the Palestinian Arab

people. The Egyptian politician added: I and the rest of the leaders of Egyptian opposition parties responded to the pan-Arab duty to stop the horrible massacre of children, women, youths, and elderly people in Palestinian camps. However, he added, I found no reason to go to Damascus, and I preferred to go to Baghdad to meet with the struggler leaders of Iraq and Palestine.

Al-Sabahi pointed out that he views the Iranian war of aggression against Iraq as a crime of the Tehran rulers against Islam and Arabism, a crime which has lasted for 6 years to satisfy Khomeyni's aggressive, criminal desire. The Al-Ummah Party leader asserted that the Egyptian people stand by Iraq in its fight for peace — a peace which is obstructed by Khomeyni's criminal regime. He said: I am convinced that Hafiz al-Asad, Nabih Birri, and the rest of their group are determined to liquidate and exterminate the Palestinian resistance in Lebanon.

The newspaper *Al-Jumhuriyah* also met with 'Izzat 'Atshi, assistant secretary general of the Al-Ummah Party. He said: I have the impression a scheme to partition Lebanon is now being implemented and that the Syrian rulers are exploiting the rift in Palestinian ranks to entrench some agent Palestinians as tools to serve their aims.

On the Iranian aggressiona gainst Iraq, 'Atshi said Iran's insistence on war is due to U.S. arms supplies, which Israel helped transport to Tehran. 'Atshi concluded: I find it shameful that some Arab rulers and politicians do not declare a frank, clear stand on the arms deal and on all parties involved in it, parties which use the Iranian aggression against Iraq as a means to impose hegemony on the Arab homeland.

Al-Jumhuriyah also met with Ahmad Taha, member of the Al-Wafd Party. He said the Tehran rulers' insistence on continuing the war of aggression is complete madness due to the huge losses for the Iranian peoples. He pointed out that the scandal of the U.S.-Israeli arms deal with Iran confirms that Washington and Tel Aviv are behind the continuation of the war. Regrettably, he said, there are Arab parties sharing in the perpetuation of this war.

Ahmad Taha asserted that the Egyptian people stand by their brothers the Iraqi people in defending their national sovereignty. He called for a unified Arab stand in support of Iraq. On the Syrian regime's position on the camps war against Palestinians, he said the statement by the Egyptian party leaders hold Syria responsible for stopping the fighting against the Palestinian camps in Lebanon.

'Abd al-Fattah al-Shurbaji, secretary general of the Liberal Socialist Party, said: We believe that what is currently demanded is not only to condemn the Iranian aggression, but also to search for ways to stop it.

Al-Shurbaji expressed bitterness because the Lebanese arena has now become field of experiments for forces hostile to the Arab people's aspirations. Concluding, Al-Shurbaji asserted that the Iranians and their allies know well that the Egyptian people will not accept anyone harming the Iraqi people's rights.

People's Assembly Approves Election Law Changes

NC301701 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1228 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Excerpts] Cairo, 30 Dec (MENA) — The People's Assembly reconvened today under the chairmanship of Speaker Rif'at al-Mahjub, discussing the Legislative Committee's report on three bills pertaining to the election law. The bills had been proposed by Assembly Members Kamal Al-Shadhili, Mumtaz Nassar, and Milad Hanna.

Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub said he had received notification from Councillor Mumtaz Nassar, leader of the Neo-Wafd Opposition Group, indicating that he is withdrawing because yesterday's session, which voted to approve in principle the bill submitted by Kamal al-Shadhili, was attended by only 169 members, not a legal quorum; because the opposition was not given an opportunity to oppose this bill; and because of a radio broadcast today announcing that the bill had been approved.

Dr Rif'at al-Mahjub said he had also received notification from Engineer Ibrahim Shukri [leader of the opposition Socialist Labor Party] indicating he rejects the election bill submitted by Kamal al-Shadhili and will not participate today in discussion of its clauses in view of the haste with which the bill was discussed yesterday and because he and his colleagues were not able to take part in the discussion. He added that there had been no quorum when the preliminary vote was taken. [passage omitted]

Majority members of the People's Assembly commented on the withdrawal of the opposition, saying that it represents an unacceptable threat to the majority and that Egypt now enjoys unprecedented democracy, which is a credit to President Husni Mubarak.

The members noted during their discussion of Al-Shadhili's bill that the amendments introduced to the election law, which deal with allowing independent candidates to run for election, have strengthened democracy and given citizens an opportunity to choose from among independent candidates and from electoral lists submitted by the parties, which will present their best candidates. [passage omitted]

The People's Assembly has approved the clause dividing Egypt into 48 electoral constituencies. In each constituency members of the People's Assembly will be elected both from party lists and from independent candidates. Each constituency will elect one independent member, while the other representatives will be elected from the candidates on the party lists.

Every party will have a special candidate list. No one list can include candidates from more than one party, and the number of candidates must equal the number of People's Assembly members to be elected from that constituency. At least half of the candidates on every party list must be workers and peasants.

The People's Assembly approved the following clause: If an elected member's seat becomes vacant before the end of his tenure, the election to fill that seat will be conducted in the same manner in which the original member was elected. If that member was elected through a party list, candidacies will be restricted to the parties represented in the People's Assembly, and voting

will be for electoral lists. The list which receives the greatest number of valid votes will be declared the winner.

The People's Assembly also approved the following clause: No one may run for election within a party list and independently at the same time, in either one or more constituencies. Such a candidate will be considered independent.

The People's Assembly approved the bill submitted by member Kamal al-Shadhili, and the session adjourned until 10 January 1987.

Opposition Rejects Bill

NC301934 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1720 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Cairo, 30 Dec (MENA) — Councillor Mumtaz Nassar, leader of the Neo-Wafd Opposition Group at the People's Assembly; Engineer Ibrahim Shukri, leader of the Socialist Labor Party; and Dr Milad Hanna, an independent opposition member, today issued a statement on the withdrawal of the opposition representatives from today's People's Assembly session, during which the assembly approved a bill submitted by member Kamal al-Shadhili, of the NDP, amending the election law.

The parliamentary opposition said in its statement that it rejects the bill because insufficient time was allotted for discussion and because it is not designed to achieve radical reform.

The opposition has decided to send a cable to President Husni Mubarak informing him of its stand.

The parliamentary opposition parties have decided to call on party leaders to adopt appropriate measures regarding the election law issue.

The parties noted that the opposition's withdrawal from the People's Assembly session today represents a statement of its position on this matter.

During a news conference Councillor Mumtaz Nassar announced that he had submitted a proposal — which he submits every year to the People's Assembly — to amend the present election law and return to a system of individual election.

Engineer Ibrahim Shukri pointed out that when the Constitution was written, its authors had only a system of individual election in mind.

Dr Milad Hanna asserted that President Husni Mubarak is careful to meet with party leaders after all importnat events and stated that the president always urges national concord and dialogue on national issues. He added: In my opinion we have an issue now that requires dialogue. At the same time, the president is preparing to attend the Islamic Conference Organization meeting in Kuwait. This requires that we maintain cohesion, particularly in view of the difficult economic conditions the country is enduring.

Planning Minister Interviewed on Economy

JN291138 Cairo AL-MUSAWWAR in Arabic 26 Dec 86 pp 22-25, 66-67

[Interview with Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and minister of planning and international cooperation, by *Al-Musawwar* in Cairo — date not given]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] *Al-Musawwar*: How do you view the elements of the economic crisis? Do you think that this crisis will continue next year? What is our ability to obtain further hard currencies as well as our ability to ease the burden of our debts, including military debts, whether through our discussions with the IMF, the creditors, or the Soviets?

Dr al-Janzuri: I do not think there are more difficult circumstances than those encountered by Egypt in 1986 when the price of a barrel of oil dropped from $28 in December 1985 to $9 in April 1986. We lose $70 million whenever the price of the barrel drops $1. This indicates the size of the deficit. Moreover, the Egyptians' remittances have also dropped in a manner that concerns us and affects our economy, in addition to the decline in tourism revenues as a result of terrorism in the region surrounding us. More than 2 months ago we said that the average price of a barrel of oil will reach $15 by the end of the year after rising to $12. We also said that it will further rise to $18. This was not an individual interpretation but the outcome of calculations between the producer and the consumer. We calculated our plan on the basis of $14 per barrel but did not announce this as we did in January 1982 when the price was $38 per barrel. However, we managed to finance our foreign imports on the basis of $24 per barrel. Thus, the plan allows for all eventualities. Therefore, I expect next year to be better, God willing.

Al-Musawwar: What is the government doing to urge the Egyptian workers to invest their money in Egypt and also urge the Arab capital to come to Egypt?

Dr al-Janzuri: We expect workers to return to Egypt and work here after some time. It is this labor force which will search for production outlets and create a new production capability.

Al-Musawwar: Will there be different interest rates on loans according to the objectives of the plan and to whether these loans are used in production, services, or trade sectors?

Dr al-Janzuri: Yes, there will be different rates because the credit policy should support the objectives of the plan. The current dialogue views the rise in the interest rate as a way of stimulating deposits and not from the perspective of investment cost because the deposit will later become an investment.

Al-Musawwar: Is this because the IMF is interested in foreign trade?

Dr al-Janzuri: They consider the purely financial aspect. For the financial aspect to succeed it should be constrasted with the supply aspect in the process of development. When a decision is made, its influence on other aspects should be noted. Raising the interest rate will affect investment as was the case in the United States when the rate rose to 18 percent in 1980. There was

unemployment because deposits should be invested and not kept in banks. Otherwise, the capital will escape as happened in the United States. We have discussed this matter at length and decided that the short-term credit can be increased and the credit picture or controls should reflect the objectives of development.

Al-Musawwar: Banks are complaining about the ceiling put on credits when there is an actual surplus in liquidity.

Dr al-Janzuri: We have to create the productive activity in which the bank can invest its funds in accordance with the objectives of the plan. Since 1982, production has been proceeding in accordance with the list of priorities.

Al-Musawwar: Has cancellation of the old situation whereby one can import goods without the need to transfer any particular currency had a negative effect on importing the intermediary goods needed by factories?

Dr al-Janzuri: A comparison between the old situation and the customs law issued in August will show that this law is an important achievement concerning the importation of intermediary goods.

Al-Musawwar: To what extent do you expect the IMF prescription to be similar to or different from the Egyptian prescription for the economy?

Dr al-Janzuri: The IMF prescription is almost 95 percent similar to the Egyptian prescription. Having counted everything, including cost of living, we could not accept anything other than the Egyptian prescription. The Egyptian prescription will be carried out, and this confirms that it is not just the prescription of the IMF or the World Bank, but the economic course that should have been followed. We are now trying to implement the Egyptian prescription.

Al-Musawwar: How far have we got with the rescheduling talks?

Dr al-Janzuri: The rescheduling will take place after an agreement is reached with the IMF.

Al-Musawwar: It was assumed that we would pay $3.5 billion annually for 3 years and after that we would pay $900 million annually, which is within the Egyptian economy's ability. For how long were we supposed to pay the $3.5 billion installment after the rescheduling?

Dr al-Janzuri: We are demanding their postponement in full until we acquire new development resources for investment.

Al-Musawwar: Will the rescheduling talks include the principal plus the debt services? It has also been said that an advisory committee will meet to discuss support for the Egyptian economy. How will matters proceed?

Dr al-Janzuri: We are discussing this subject with several countries. However, we must not confuse this issue with the rescheduling talks. The attempts which were made before 1982 were mere consultations.

Al-Musawwar: The talks with the IMF and the World Bank are expected to reduce the burden. But there is another problem; namely, the new census which has shown that the country's population is now 51 million. What are the investments in the new plan?

Dr al-Janzuri: The investments in the new plan amount to 42 billion pounds; that is 8.1 billion pounds annually.

Al-Musawwar: Indeed, we lack the funds to invest in new fields. Where will we get these funds?

Dr al-Janzuri: The local and foreign resources I mentioned earlier are available. But the problem is to invest them in fields that will bring us greater revenue and enable us to cope with the rescheduling of debts during the next 3 years. So the issue now is how to make best use of our resources. The question is: How can we use these resources in light of the objective priorities of the plan? We must ensure greater revenues and higher capabilities: in other words the ability to depend on ourselves year after year and thereby place ourselves in the best position.

Al-Musawwar: Which projects can generate profits throughout the next 3 years?

Dr al-Janzuri: All projects related to agriculture and industry are necessary. Otherwise, imports will increase.

In the agriculture field, fertile land must be cared for and agricultural studies that can double or triple production times must also be supported. All these projects can bring large profits in the next 3 years.

With regard to industry, how can we expand those industries that depend on raw materials that are available in our country? How can we enter other fields such as the cement industry, which has doubled in the past 4 years but still does not meet the needs of the local market?

Al-Musawwar: What is the amount of currency needed for the new investments?

Dr al-Jazuri: The projects that need more foreign currency were left for the 2d and 3d years. Whenever we say 24 billion pounds during 5 years we mean 5 to 5.5 billion each year regardles of prices. 12.5 percent of this annual amount, that is 700 million, is in cash. Therefore, we have no ambition to increase the foreign currency. I would like to say that I was very modest in estimating the size of investments, particularly in currency so as to be able to confront it, and in the financial aids so they will not become an additional burden on the budget.

Al-Musawwar: What is the difference between the past difficult year and this year? What hopes can be people have?

Dr al-Janzuri: We don't say that the problems were solved. We prevent the exacerbation of the problems. The probems which we faced during the past year and a half were outside our control. I would like to tell our people that next year there will be less burden than this year.

A great deal of the eggs, poultry, and margarine needed by the citizens were not available this year. At the beginning of next year the situation will not change. However, the people will feel the crisis has gradually ended by the end of the year. The Egyptian people have suffered a great deal this year, but next year will be better. [passage omitted]

AL-AKHBAR Praises Planned Agreement With IMF

JN301822 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 29 Dec 86 p 1

[Sa'id Sunbul article: "The Agreement and Its Meaning"]

[Text] The agreement Egypt intends to conclude with the IMF has more than one meaning. Under the agreement, expected to be concluded before March, debts and arrears that will accrue against Egypt until mid-1988 will be rescheduled. These sums have been estimated at around $10 billion. The agreement stipulates that Egypt will not pay these sums for a period of 5 years, which is a grace period. Egypt will start paying these sums in 1992 and for the next 5 years.

We must all understand that the rescheduling of our debts does not mean that the debt problem is over. It is an inescapable postponement in view of the anomalous circumstances Egypt has experienced in 1986. This solution was reached after huge efforts.

Some object to the agreement with the IMF. Other object to rescheduling the debts accruing against Egypt on the grounds that this agreement does not solve the debt problems.

What is the alternative?

The agreement Egypt intends to conclude with the IMF is not the first between the two sides and maybe not the last. The rescheduling of Egypt's debts is not an innovation. It is a procedure Egypt adopted in the sixties and seventies.

In 1986, Egypt experienced a sharp drop in its foreign currency revenues as a result of the collapse of oil prices. At the same time, it is being asked to settle debt installments of more than $3 billion.

Faced with this situation, over which it has no control, Egypt found itself dutybound either to settle its debts and suspend imports of food and raw materials that are needed for production and services — which would create crises and bottlenecks we can do without — or to postpone the settlement of its debts and reschedule them and thus avoid crises and bottlenecks. Egypt chose the second alternative.

The agreement Egypt intends to conclude with the IMF will help it come out of the acute crisis it has experienced and avoid bottlenecks it could experience.

What is surprising is that some of those who object to this agreement and try to depict it as the opposite of what it is are the first to raise a hue and cry if a bar of soap is missing from the market or if chicken becomes scarce as a result of the shortage of foreign currency. They are the first to exploit problems without offering any solutions.

The agreement between Egypt and the IMF will not end the problem of the debts that are accruing against Egypt. It only postpones the problem and gives Egypt an opportunity to catch its breath in a calm atmosphere, without bottlenecks. This is a fact that no one can deny.

In view of this new state of affairs, we have more than one duty to perform. First, any talk about an increase in production must be translated from words and slogans into clear programs and policies and then implement them. Second, it is necessary to develop the production base so that Egyptian exports will increase and imports will decrease. This will enable us to settle our dues. In this respect, it is necessary to define clear objectives instead of repeating words and slogans. Third, we must control the volume of foreign debts through clear and austere policies. It is also necessary to put controls on foreign borrowing. Fourth, it is necessary to change the concept of cooperation between us and the outside world. This cooperation must not be restricted to assistance or loans from other countries, but must be based on expanding trade between us and the other countries.

The year 1986 was a difficult and gloomy one. We ask God to make 1987 a happy year that will make the people smile once again.

Communique No 2,508 Details 29-30 Dec Operations

JN301731 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
1700 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Communique No 2,508 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 30 December 1986]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our forces inflicted new losses on the aggressors during their operations last night and today as follows:

1. Our brave soldiers in the III Army Corps sector east of Al-Basrah continued their combat activities. They dealt effective blows to the enemy assembly points and positions and to its mortar emplacements, inflicting more losses on them. They also achieved the following:

Five vehicles were destroyed and four others were damaged.

Two boats were burned.

One 122-mm gun was destroyed.

Five infantry positions were destroyed and those manning them were killed.

Five enemy personnel were killed.

A number of ammunition depots were burned.

2. In the VII Army Corps sector, our victorious troops continued their heroic confrontation of the enemy. Artillery and tank units directed their fire at the enemy positions opposite them and at other targets, inflicting heavy losses on them and killing and wounding a number of enemy personnel.

3. One of our units from the I Special Army Corps, the God Is Great Forces, confronted an enemy patrol which was trying to approach its positions and forced it to flee, inflicting casualties. Other units in the same sector dealt effective artillery and mortar fire to the enemy positions and assembly points, killing two enemy soldiers, destroying a number of infantry positions, and setting one ammunition dump on fire.

4. In the II Army Corps central sector, one enemy soldier was killed, one vehicle was damaged, and one infantry position was destroyed.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 30 December 1986

Defense Minister Holds News Conference

JN302050 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic
2000 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces and defense minister, held a news conference this evening attended by correspondents of Arab and international newspapers, news agencies, and television networks. During the news conference, he spoke about the details of the Great Day battle waged by the VII and III Army Corps men against the Zionist Iranian enemy.

The defense minister said: The Great Day battle has affirmed the superiority of the Iraqi Armed Forces in terms of combat capability and efficiency and firmness in confronting the aggressors. It also affirmed the Iraqi fighter's belief in the cause which he is defending. He added that the valiant Iraqi Army will not allow the criminal aggressor to gain a foothold on the chaste Iraqi territory. Khayrallah strongly warned that if the criminal enemy continues to shell residential areas of Iraqi cities it will face a violent response at the appropriate time.

At his news conference, the defense minister explained the dimensions of the arms cooperation between the two Zionist entities in Tehran and Tel Aviv on the one hand and the role of world imperialism in this field on the other. He added that Iraq, which called for peace during the first week of the Iranian aggression, still adheres to this principled stand. The deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces earlier explained the details of the recent Iranian aggression against the III and VII Army Corps sectors and the terrible defeat the Zionist Iranian rulers reaped from their aggressive attempts to encroach on Iraqi territory and its great people.

The news conference was attended by the chief of the Political Guidance Department at the Defense Ministry, a number of high-ranking officers, and the chief editors of local newspapers and INA.

Iranian Goal To Occupy Basra

JN300818 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
1750 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Hasan al-Kashif dispatch from Baghdad]

[Text] Iraqi Defense Minister 'Adnan Khayrallah held a news conference this evening devoted to the Shatt al-'Arab battle. The Iraqi defense minister said the objective of the Iranian offensive was to occupy Basra. The offensive was carried out along a 40-km front from Al-Qit'ah in the south to (Kut al-Sawadi) in the north, he added. The forces in their first thrust comprised eight divisions and six Khomeyni Guard Brigades supported by intensive artillery fire and a large number of boats. They also sent a large number of frogmen. They succeeded in establishing footholds in many places the first night. However, the quick reply and the steadfastness of the units foiled their thrust. Had they succeeded in attaining their objectives, they would have ended the cooperation between the VII and III Army Corps, controlled Basra from the southern side, occupied all of Al-Faw, then Khowr 'Abdallah, and then moved north toward Basra. Had they carried out their thrust from (Kut al-Sawadi), they would have approached 13 km from Basra. The forces that followed those used in the first thrust were great in number in the hope that the thrust would take place and thus achieve their objectives. The offensive was big in terms of its objectives and the forces used in it. However, it failed.

Gen 'Adnan Khayrallah said: This offensive was aborted because we completed our preparations, laid down the necessary plans, successfully selected the units, prepared the battlefield,

and benefited from the lessons learned in the Al-Faw battle. He added: That is why our reply was quick and the battle was quickly decided in (Al-Shalhati), (Al-Shahiniyah), and Umm al-Rasas. We wiped out the bulk of the attacking forces and inflicted very heavy losses on them on the [Shatt al-'Arab] bank and deep inside their territory despite their successive human waves and their firepower. The battle would have been decisive had they attained their objectives. I expect that they will continue to devote their attention to Basra.

In reply to a question on whether the Iranian efforts to pursue the offensive continue, the Iraqi defense minister said: In the central sector, there are three armored brigades and more than this in the guards and infantry divisions. All of them are ready to attack. Our Air Force deals with the Iranian forces too. The enemy has troop reinforcements and camps in Kermanshah [Bakhtaran]. In any case, we are lying in wait for them.

What about Al-Faw? The Iraqi defense minister said: Al-Faw is Iraqi territory. Its liberatinon is a duty. However, its liberation is subject to balance [al-muwazanah]. Its liberation is certainly only a question of time.

Gen 'Adnan Khayrallah denied Iraq has used chemical weapons. He said the Iranian claim aims to justify their heavy losses and bitter defeat as well as to belittle our capabilities. He added: I wonder why the international organizations do not ask the Iranians the following question before accepting their claims about chemical wepaons: Why did your forces attack Iraqi territory?

The Iraqi Air Force played a big role before and during the battle. How does the deputy commander in chief of the Iraqi Armed Forces assess the performance of the Air Force? He said: The Iraqi Air Force intervenes when the Iranian military preparations are completed. This means that we learned their intentions. This made them hasten their offensive. Our Air Force assumed the responsibility of depriving Iran of its potential. This Air Force still has missions ahead of it to destroy what is left of their potential. The experience of the Air Force has deepened and crystallized. It is carrying out its missions with Iraqi efficiency without any help from any party.

Gen 'Adnan Khayrallah warned Iran by saying: Our aircraft have not raided Iranian cities, but if Iran continues to shell our cities with artillery and missiles, we will raid more than one Iranian city with 100 planes at a time.

On the U.S. and Israeli arms to Iran, Khayrallah said: It is possible that the U.S. arms supplies to Iran will stop, but the Israeli arms supplies to Iran will not stop.

On the sources of Iraqi weapons, Khayrallah said: We receive some hardware and weapons from Egypt when necessary. This constitutes a small part of our needs. Our relations with the USSR and France are excellent and distinguished. We have arms deals with them. There is a maritime agreement with Italy. This agreement has been suspended for reasons known to us as well as them. There is no reason to draw a comparison between the Soviet Union and France if the talk about our relations with Moscow and Paris embarrasses them. We are in fact defending our country and calling for peace without conditions. Therefore, our demands for arms are legitimate. The United States did not provide us with intelligence information. Washington's relationship with Tehran has undermined its credibility and encouraged the Iranian aggressor.

Khayrallah added: Our losses are less than one percent of their losses. Our men's blood is very dear but the homeland is dearer. We have no other option. This is what the Iraqi defense minister said at the conclusion of his news conference, a news conference by a military leader who achieved a great victory in an important but short battle.

Recent Battle Commemorated

JN301810 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1730 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Dec (INA) — INA has learned that it has been decided to name the recent battle of the heroic III and VII Army Corps against the Zionist, Khomeyniite aggressors the "Great Day." A decision has also been made to call the great results achieved by the Armed Forces in the epic of the III and VII Army Corps "the victories of the Great Day" to exult these great victories.

President Receives Message From Afghan Leader

JN300637 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1735 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Dec (INA) — RCC Vice Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim received Afghan Deputy Foreign Minister Sarwar Wyuresh here this evening. The Afghan official delivered to 'Izzat Ibrahim a written message for President Saddam Husayn from Mohammad Chamkani, acting chairman of the Afghan Revolutionary Council, on bilateral relations and ways to improve them.

Husayn-Mubarak Meeting 'New Move' to Solidarity
JN301100 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
30 Dec 86 pp 1, 17

[Editorial: "The Aqaba Meeting, Firm Steps"]

[Text] The Aqaba meeting between His Majesty King Husayn and His Excellency Egyptian President Husni Mubarak constitutes a new move toward rebuilding Arab solidarity and is both a means and an end. Since the collapse of Arab solidarity, Jordanian policy continued to open channels and doors with the various fraternal Arab countries, convinced of the need for dialogue to restore solidarity and revive joint Arab action. Jordanian policy, which clearly understood the reality of Arab action and the cause of its fragmentation and collapse, made admirable steps in dealing with fraternal Egypt in view of its weight and possible role. Jordanian-Egyptian relations have become a clear example for relations between any two Arab countries. They have produced practical, tangible phenomena that make up deep bilateral cooperation in all economic, social, and political activities.

The talks explained that the views of the two fraternal sides, Jordan and Egypt, on the Iraq-Iran war are identical. Both sides support the Iraqi people in their defense of their nation and in their confrontation of Iranian aggression. Moreover, both sides call for ending this war and preventing its escalation. By virtue of their direct relationship to the current conflict in the region, the Jordanian and Egyptian sides believe that the discussion of convening an international conference, on which there is unanimous agreement, has become a discussion of ways to prepare for it. His Majesty King Husayn has affirmed this on several occasions. This was also affirmed during the two leaders' meeting in Aqaba. The two leaders stressed the need to speed up efforts for serving joint Arab aims and for enabling the presently fragmented Arab effort to open wider scopes of action.

The Aqaba meeting reviewed all urgent developments and the methods for future moves. It defined and crystallized the new concept and course of action required until an integrated form is attained and submitted before the forthcoming Islamic summit in Kuwait. Jordan, under His Majesty King Husayn, has always believed that Arab solidarity is both the means and objective, and that clearing the Arab atmosphere is a prerequisite for providing a suitable Arab climate for achieving objectives. Here, Jrodan has always regarded the PLO as the Palestinian people's sole, legitimate representative. Jordan firmly affirms that it is not, and will not agree to be, a substitute for the PLO or an agent for the Palestinian people.

Because of Jordan's eagerness to keep Arab moves on the correct course, Jordan refuses to remain the unconcerned bystander, especially regarding what is taking place in the occupied territories. Moreover, it refuses merely to express opinions and issue statements while observing our kinfolk suffer from the occupation's oppression, tyranny, and attempts to obliterate the Arab identity and endanger the historic roots of the Arab people. Since Jordan realizes that the enemies are constantly moving in accordance with their interests and desires, it believes that the Arabs should counter these moves with similar moves to prevent the current flawed situation from further deterioration at our expense while we remain uninitiating and passive recipients. Jordan believes that repeated Egyptian-Jordanian meetings like the Aqaba meeting will sow the seeds of initiative, follow it up, and transfer it to the brothers to encourage them to rally around bilateral Arab action and subsequently promote it into a collective program.

From this stems the importance Jordan and Egypt attach to the forthcoming Islamic summit conference and to their call for an Arab summit to enable the Arab leaders to crystallize a unified Arab stand to contain the challenges and conspiracies facing the nation. A dangerous situation has resulted from the Iraq-Iran war, the bloodshed in Lebanon, the attacks on the Palestinians in their refugee camps, and the continuing aggression in the occupied territories. All of these massive wounds in the bleeding Arab body cannot be remedied except by a unified Arab meeting aimed at building Arab solidarity to face the challenges. The forthcoming Isalmic summit conference is a great opportunity for Arab leaders to adopt a useful, positive stand. These facts prompted Jordan to make its moves prior to the Islamic summit in Kuwait and to pin its hopes on the outcome of this summit.

Israeli Policy Will 'Abort' Peace Efforts
JN311140 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
31 Dec 86 pp 1, 17

[Editorial: "Peace Efforts and the Constant Israeli Obstacle"]

[Text] The talk about peace is one thing and sincere efforts to achieve it are something else. Exploiting peace efforts to abort it is one thing and accepting the prerequisites for peace is something else. With the end of this year, which witnessed a flood of tragedies for the region's peoples and countries which came as a natural extension for the continuation of the Middle East conflict, foremost of which is the continuing Israeli military occupation of the Arab territories, there is talk about new initiatives and new ideas regarding the issue of peace in the Middle East and a peaceful settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

An Israeli official said yesterday that Yitzhaq Shamir's Israeli Government is studying new peace proposals on the Middle East. He did not miss the opportunity to express Israel's desire to achieve peace and stability in the region. Naturally, Israel's study of any new peace ideas would not fall outside the framework of the Israeli concept of peace which is based on imposing a de facto situation in the occupied Arab territories and regarding it as part of the so-called land of Israel. This falls within the framework of a series of statements by members of the present Israeli Government and a number of staunch radicals in the Israeli entity considering the West Bank and Gaza Strip a natural extension of the Hebrew state that is devoid of the Arab element. This is the Israeli concept of Arab citizens in these territories: that they are a foreign community on Israeli land.

Any initiative or move that falls outside this Zionist framework of the concept of peace will be a mere political luxury practiced by the Israeli Government to gain more time to entrench its occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip and expel more citizens until it arrives at the final stage of Judaization. Thus, any Arab or European move to establish a just, comprehensive

peace on the basis of a comprehensive international conference to be attended by all the parties to the conflict, the five member states of the Security Council, and including the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people will crash against the obstacle of Israeli rejection. Israel believes in the imposed solution in accordance with the prerequisites of the Israeli interest and strategy of regional expansion. These moves would also crash against U.S. support for the Israeli stands that reject the idea of an international conference and serious endeavors to achieve peace.

We believe that the peace efforts will remain in a vicious circle if all constructive international efforts do not become more comprehensive and attain a practical formula capable of exerting pressure on the United States and Israel to accept the principle of a peaceful dialogue and negotiations with the framework of the desired international conference. Without this, the Israelis will continue to study the ideas and proposals on peace not to make them succeed or discuss them but to abort them and thrust the issue into new labyrinths and deeper frustration.

Husayn Receives New York's Cardinal O'Connor
JN301608 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Excerpt] Amman, 30 Dec (PETRA) — This afternoon His Majesty King Husayn received Cardinal O'Connor of New York at Al-Nadwah Palace. His Majesty outlined developments in the Palestinian cause in all its aspects and efforts to promote a just and lasting settlement in the Middle East. King Husayn stressed the need for an international conference on peace in the Middle East, with the participation of all parties to the Arab-Israeli dispute and the five permanent members of the UN Security Council. [passage omitted]

Senate Unanimously Approves 1987 State Budget
JN311241 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Excerpt] During its session this morning under Senate President Ahmad al-Lawzi and the attendance of Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and the ministers, the Senate unanimously approved the state budget draft law for 1987, which was referred to it by the House of Representatives. [passage omitted]

U.S., French Hostages Reportedly To Be Released

NC310619 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] According to some press reports, the Islamic Jihad Organization will free a number of the U.S. and French hostages today or tomorrow, on the occasion of the new year. The Islamic Jihad Organization declared in Beirut yesterday that it intends to release some of the hostages.

Meanwhile, the Revolutionary Justice Organization issued a statement yesterday, containing a series of warnings to French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac [word indistinct] what it described as provocative statements and his complete ignorance of the real identity of the parties that played an active role in releasing the French hostage Aurel Cornea. The statement said that Cornea's release was a goodwill gesture directed toward France as a state rather than toward individuals. To some extent the release was the result of intensive efforts by Iran, Syria, and Algeria. The statement noted that the PLO had played no role in the release of the hostage.

Kidnappers Claim Three Jewish Hostages Executed

HK310016 Hong Kong AFP in English 0006 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] Beirut, Dec 30 (AFP) — Three Lebanese Jewish hostages held for 21 months have been executed, their Lebanese captors said in a statement received by a foreign news agency here Tuesday.

The "Movement for the Oppressed on Earth," Mustad'afin Fil Ard, said it had carried out "God's sentence" on "three spies working for Israeli intelligence".

It identified the three as Yusif Yehouda Benesti, Elie Srur and Henri Men.

The statement said the bodies of the three would be returned to their families only on condition that "Israel put a stop to its exactions in Southern Lebanon, withdrew from the security zone and freed all prisoners held at Khiyam (a prison operated by the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army)".

"If these conditions are not met we will execute the other Israeli spies we are holding," the statement said.

Mr. Benesti, 34, kidnapped on May 18 1985, and Mr. Srur, 42, abducted in March 1985, are among six members of the Lebanese Jewish community reported missing from West Beirut since March 1985. However Mr. Men is not on the list.

According to the Jewish community's Supreme Council, seven Lebanese Jews were kidnapped in Lebanon between March and May 1985: Isaac Sassoun, 65, who was the council's chairman, Dr. Elie Hallaq, 50, the deputy chairman, Professor Isaac Tarrab, 70, Salim Jamous, 50, Elie Srur, Yusif Benesti and Haim Chalala Cohen, 39.

The Movement for the Opressed Earth, which claimed responsibility for all the kidnappings, announced the "execution" of Mr. Chalala Cohen on Christmas Eve 1985. His body was found 48 hours later on the Beirut East-West demarcation line.

Karami Receives Syrian Official, Views Summit

NC281731 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 28 Dec 86

[Text] Prime Minister Rashid Karami met in his office in (Karm al-Qillah) this morning with Dr Mustafa al-Haj 'Ali, director of the office of Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. Following the meeting, which lasted approximately 1 hour, Karami said:

[Begin recording] I have received Dr Mustafa al-Haj 'Ali, who conveyed to me a message from the Syrian brothers on the results of the Lebanese regime's efforts to hold a fresh [Lebanese-Syrian] summit to seek a solution to our current stalemate. When I noted that the path to B'abda Palace was via the racecourse, we were met with insistence that Damascus should be the road leading to B'abda. This is a matter of indifference to us. What is important is the political effort aimed at finding a plan of reform and salvation, which cannot proceed unless we are consulted. Today's visit falls within this context. We have said that democracy, based on justice and equality, is the solution to this ordeal, and we have been serious throughout the phases of the dialogue, starting in Geneva, Lausanne, Damascus, Bikfayya, and ending in B'abda. Our opinion has never changed.

We are confronted today by mounting pressures such as the camps war and the rising cost of foreign currencies, which has an impact on the people's living conditions. We can no longer allow others to attempt to reach undesirable goals through delaying tactics. We must forge ahead without abandoning gains, needs, or desired reforms. Time is no longer a positive factor. Lebanon's interests are now paramount, and this makes it incumbent upon everyone to clarify his stand as soon as possible and accept the resolutions needed for a quick end to this situation, which affects us all.

I said in the Chamber of Deputies that the dissolution of the militia, handing over of the ports [to the government], and legitimate authorities' reassumption of their duties would lead to recovery of the rights of the state's treasury and the state's assuming its duties to alleviate these pressing, unbearable conditions.

I have said repeatedly that we pray to God that the required summit may take place if this would resolve the crisis. I still maintain this stand and stress to President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil that we are both responsible for the fate of Lebanon and the condition of all Lebanese people. If he chooses the Damascus road for convening the Council of Ministers, and if this choice will secure sovereignty and salvation, we will stand by him and will not oppose him. The president should quickly take a stand that fulfills the hopes and demands of the Lebanese, particularly the nationalists, who after all these sacrifices will accept only a democratic system based on justice and equality.

This is our firm and abiding stand. Every initiative based on equal opportunities for all citizens, from the Presidency of the Republic to the smallest office in this state, must be accepted equally by all sects and faiths in Lebanon.

I was frank in expressing my stand. I hope that the principle adopted in the meeting of the brother Christians when they called for a salvation plan will be approved. At the time of the meeting, newspapers published the principle of rotation among the top three government posts. I accept and endorse this principle and consider it a solution to the current anomalous situation. If Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil believes there is no alternative to accepting these solutions, let him hurry to approve them so the summit conference can lead to the relief everyone anticipates. Thank you. [end recording]

Dany Sham'un Supports Summit With Syria
NC311120 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1015 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] Dany Sham'un, the leader of the National Liberals Party, has affirmed that President Amin al-Jumayyil is exerting every possible effort to resolve the current political crisis by reactivating the Council of Ministers and by reaching an understanding with Damascus on Syria's behavior toward Lebanon. He added: The president has expressed optimism about the flexibility shown by Damascus. We hope that the president is right. We support the [Lebanese-Syrian] summit and the regime's moves in this regard. However, we insist that such a summit be held in Lebanon this time. It must be fruitful if it is to restore the state's authority and produce a timetable for the withdrawal of Syrian troops and all foreign armies from Lebanon.

Sham'un called on Karami to convene the Council of Ministers if he really believes in Lebanon's sovereignty and independence. He said: The Lebanese problem today concerns hungry people and a state suffering from a lack of stability. Syria can contribute to a solution, he added, but it cannot solve the Lebanese crisis.

New Organization Threatens to Strike at Syria
NC311043 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1015 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] A new organization calling itself the Sunnite Islamic Resistance Movement [Harakat al-Muqawamah al-Sunniyah] has been added to the list of numerous liberation movements and revolutionary and national organizations in West Beirut. This new group, whose birth was announced today, will begin its activities in Lebanon and Syria at the beginning of the new year. According to a spokesman for the movement, the Syrian Army has 24 hours to withdraw from Tripoli and Beirut. Otherwise, the zero hour will begin with the destruction of Syrian establishments throughout the world.

An organization known as the National Liberation Units claimed responsibility for the explosions which took place last night in the Shihab and Fakr al-Din barracks and Ard Jallul.

Lebanese Forces Demand Syrian Army Withdrawal
NC301935 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1715 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Excerpts] The Lebanese Forces Command Council held a meeting today under Dr Samir Ja'ja', with the participation of all members. Following the meeting, which ended a short while ago, a statement was issued noting that the Lebanese forces both desire and demand the establishment of natural friendly relations between Lebanon and Syria, based on equality and mutual respect for the two countries' independence and territorial integrity. Furthermore, the Lebanese Forces support any contact or summit meeting that will ratify the principles of the 15 January Movement and the concept, unanimously approved by key Lebanese figures and parties, defining the Lebanese peace initiative.

The statement goes on to say that the Lebanese Forces' position on the various occupation forces in Lebanon is clear and unyielding. All armed groups and foreign armies must withdraw from Lebanon without any preconditions. As a result, and on the occasion of talks about a Lebanese-Syrian summit, the Lebanese Forces believe that the agenda for such a summit should include a timetable for the withdrawal of the Syrian Army from Lebanon, since the presence of this army has been illegitimate since August 1982 and since it was asked frankly to withdraw in September 1983. In this regard, the Lebanese Forces demand that the timetable for the Syrian Army's withdrawal also state that the Lebanese Army will assume the positions vacated by the Syrian Army. The Lebanese Army can seek the help of UN forces when necessary.

The Lebanese Forces call on the entire world, particularly the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, the Vatican, and the European states to help Lebanon regain its independence and sovereignty. [passage omitted]

The statement notes that the Lebanese Forces' Command Council reviewed the massacres committed by Syrian troops in Tripoli. The Lebanese forces — which have been hurt by the destruction and ruin wrought in Tripoli and by the results of Syria's retaliatory campaign against the sons of the town, despite the fact that they do not share the convictions expressed by certain people in Tripoli — declare that the Syrian military presence in Lebanon has become a pressing military and political problem for the Lebanese and that the only solution is the withdrawal of all Syrian troops in Lebanon. [passage omitted] While strongly condemning the massacres that took place in Tripoli, the Lebanese Forces urge the Lebanese not to succumb to any foreign power, because a free, independent, and sovereign homeland requires sacrifices from all Lebanese. [passage omitted]

Syrians Campaign Against Unification Movement
NC310846 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon
in Arabic 0545 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] According to security reports from the north, Syrian forces are continuing their raids in a search for members and supporters of the Islamic Unification Movement around the Al-Dinniyah hills and Tripoli. The Syrians raided an arms depot in Harat

al-Barraniyah yesterday, confiscating a large amount of weapons and ammunition. This operation came in the wake of a confession by Muhammad al-Ghanduri, a former Islamic Unification Movement official in Al-Qibbah, who was arrested with five of his aides the day before yesterday.

An AFP report has affirmed that the Syrian Army arrested 10 Islamic Unification Movement personnel yesterday. According to the agency, this operation is part of an arrest and mopping up campaign being conducted by the Syrian Army in Tripoli and its suburbs.

Press Comments on Murphy's Upcoming Tour
JN311006 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0528 GMT 31 Dec 86

[From the press review]]

[Text] Under the headline "Murphy's New Tour and the Premeditated Plan," the newspaper *Al-Ba'th* says: The U.S. Administration has forgotten that it is the main cause of the region's pains and problems, and that it has worked and is persistently working for foiling the peace which the world seeks to achieve in a volatile region such as the Middle East. All the U.S. Administration knows in the region is that it is committed to arming Israel, to a strategic alliance with the Zionist military establishment, and to opposing any international efforts which conflict with the Israeli conditions for peace and which urge it to abide by the UN Charter and resolutions.

Through his new tour, Richard Murphy will not be a hero of peace or a messenger of amity, but certainly, he will carry with him the specifications and pillars of the premeditated plan to create a new fait accompli in the Middle East free of any peace prospects. Israel has announced its plan for the new year. It set up programs to establish settlements in the Golan Heights, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip. Washington is not only committed to financing and sponsoring these programs, but also to defending them at international forums. Israel has never stopped its threats to wage war against Syria. The United States is committed to transforming the Israeli words into action. This is what makes us believe that Murphy's tour will only carry danger in accordance with the exposed U.S. method.

Concluding, *Al-Ba'th* says: Murphy's tour will face the same end as his previous tours and the tours of the U.S. envoys who preceded him because Washington has prepared its working paper with Israel not with the objective of achieving a just and lasting peace, but of creating atmospheres which would destroy this peace and bring the world closer to the catastrophe of which the generals of Zion and Star Wars dream.

On the same subject, the newspaper *Al-Thawrah* says: The escalation of tension in the region by Washington, London, and Tel Aviv, the threats of aggression, and the practicing of pressures and blackmail indicate that any U.S. move will not be aimed at achieving peace, but a link in a hostile scheme based on U.S. policy toward the Arab nation — a scheme which sincerely expresses this policy. The campaigns of delusion and deception will not be able to conceal this fact.

Peace Council Celebrates World Year of Peace
JN301101 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic
0515 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Damascus — Under the patronage of President Hafiz al-Asad, the national council of the peace partisans movement held a speech rally last night on the occasion of the International Year of Peace, 1986, at the 7 April Hall of the Damascus Ba'th Party branch. Comrade Muhammad Jabir Bajbuj, Ba'th Party Nation Command member, WPC deputy chairman, and chairman of the peace partisans council in Syria, represented President al-Asad. Attending the rally were members of the Ba'th Party National Command, some members of the Progressive National Front Central Command, some members of the Ba'th Party Central Committee, the secretaries of the Ba'th Party Damascus and University of Damascus branches, a number of chairmen and members of the executive bureaus of popular organizations and trade unions, some of the People's Assembly members, a number of the leaders of the Palestinian revolution factions, the assistant minister of tourism, members of the diplomatic corps of Arab and friendly states in Syria, and a large crowd of citizens.

President al-Asad's representative, Comrade Muhammad Jabir Bajbuj, delivered the Ba'th Party and peace partisans council speech. He said that this rally confirms our firm commitment to pursue the struggle for the objectives of a just peace, liberation, progress, and a free and honorable life for our Arab people, led by Hafiz al-Asad, the secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party. He added: Comrade Struggler Hafiz al-Asad has expressed more than once our Arab people's will and adherence to peace and liberation, through his announcement and confirmation that Syria stands against the arms race.

Comrade Bajbuj expressed Syria's support for the USSR's proposals and initiatives to save mankind from nuclear destruction and to achieve detente in international relations. Bajbuj added: Under the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and its Secretary General Comrade Struggler President Hafiz al-Asad, Syria adopts a national and pan-Arab course hostile to imperialism and Zionism and their schemes to impose hegemony over our region. He stressed that Syria's struggle to liberate all occupied Arab territories and to restore the Palestinian people's legitimate rights constitutes an important contribution to world peace. He said that only by achieving this can peace be realized in the region.

Bajbuj said: The just struggle being waged by Syria, the fortress of Arab steadfastness, loftiness, and pride, is supported by all the progressive and nationalist Arab and world strugglers. He stressed that Al-Asad's Syria will continue to be in the trench of steadfastness and confrontation, and that it will continue its struggle to foil Israel's hostile and expansionist policy, which is supported by the United States. Comrade Bajbuj said that the rancor of imperialism and Zionism is centered on Syria, and that this explains the hysterical campaigns against it at a time when the world knows that terrorism constitutes official policy for the United States and the Zionist entity. Comrade Bajbuj urged the international community to adopt President al-Asad's proposal on forming an international committee on this issue.

Speeches were also delivered at the rally by representatives for the popular organizations and the Progressive National Front and by Assistant Foreign Minister Diya'allah al-Fattal.

On the occasion of the end of the International Year of Peace, 1986, the participants in the mass rally expressed their deep concern over the world's arms race, the storage of nuclear arms, and the increasing deployment of nuclear missiles in all continents and seas, including the Middle East region. The appeal urged the United States to stop its nuclear tests, cancel its preparations for the Star Wars plan, end the policy of state

terrorism against the peoples who struggle for their liberation, and stop its support for the crimes of the racist hostile regimes in Israel and South Africa.

The appeal states: We express our support for rallying around Syria's national, pan-Arab policy — under Comrade Struggler Hafiz al-Asad, the secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and president of the Syrian Arab Republic — a policy represented by rejecting the imperialist U.S.-Zionist policy of aggression, hegemony, and expansion. We view this course as a serious contribution to deterring the war advocates. This course is supported by the struggle of millions of those honest strugglers for a world that is governed by peace and cooperation among its peoples, who have the right to enjoy full sovereignty, territorial integrity, independence, and self-determination.

The appeal also stressed the council's support for President Hafiz al-Asad's call for an international conference to define the nature of terrorism and to differentiate between terrorism and peoples' struggle for liberation in order to foil the imperialist states' attempts to brand peoples' struggles as terrorism.

The participants in the rally stressed their determination to make every new year a year of continuous struggle for the noble objective of preventing the mass suicide of the world peoples; for deterring the imperialist, racist, and Zionist war advocates; for achieving our Arab state's liberation, independence, and unity; and for achieving the independence of all the world peoples on the basis of equality, freedom, the principles of the UN Charter, and human rights.

Peretz Resigns; SHAS To Stay in Coalition

TA311505 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1200 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] Interior Minister Yitzhaq Peretz announced from the Knesset podium this afternoon that he had handed a letter to the prime minister resigning his membership in the Cabinet. He read out the letter in which he said he had decided to resign so as not to register Mrs Susan Miller [who was converted to Judaism by reformed rabbis in the United States] as a Jew following the order of the Supreme Court.

I will not assist, Minister Peretz said, in the registering of phony converts as Jews. He said he had been offered ways to circumvent the problem, but noted that the problem should be tackled directly and courageously. Reformed conversion is no conversion but merely a bluff, Peretz said, and in its ruling the Supreme Court was not aware of the dangers inherent in reformed conversions. He called on the government to see the dangers and put an end to them. Peretz added that the Likud had not made good on its promise and had not stepped forward to prevent the matter. Nevertheless, Peretz noted he feels no rancor toward anybody in the government and thanked the prime minister for his cooperation.

Peretz' announcement came in reply to a parliamentary interpellation by Knesset Member Shulamit Aloni who sought to learn when Peretz intends to carry out the order of the Supreme Court and register Mrs Miller as a Jew. Peretz' resignation from the Cabinet will go into effect within 48 hours.

Peretz' party, SHAS [Sefaradim Shomrey Tora, Torah Observing Sephardic] has announced that it will continue to be part of the coalition and that Deputy Interior Minister Pinhasi and Interior Ministry Director General Der'i will continue to carry out their duties until next week.

Kimche Denies Proposing Iran-Contra Fund Transfer

TA301805 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1705 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Interview with former Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche by political correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami on *The New York Times* report that Colonel North told Attorney General Meese that Kimche proposed the transfer of funds from the Iran arms deal to the Nicaraguan rebels; date and place not given — recorded]

[Text] [Kimche] First of all, I, of course, categorically deny the claim. It is really quite ridiculous. All in all I met with Oliver North twice: The first time we had lunch in Washington together with another person, and we did not discuss the issue of the contras at all — the subject did not come up at all. The second time, he came to London as part of a group, and again we did not hold a private meeting. The issue is really ridiculous. North is possibly trying to pass the blame to someone else. I, like you and the rest of the people of Israel, read about the contra money in the newspaper, and that was the first place I hear about this. Moreover, I must add that it is almost an honor for me to think that someone might say that my word can change the entire U.S. policy, that is as if to say that U.S. policy adapst to whatever I recommend or advise. I could almost say this was an honor. However, in general it is ridiculous and nonsense, and not serious. I, of course, categorically deny North's remarks.

[Ben-'Ami] Do you have any idea why Colonel North is trying to attribute moves or proposals to various Israeli elements?

[Kimche] As I said, I think he is trying to pass the blame — if he really said those things. I am not completely certain that he actually said what he is reported to have said. After all, this is what is written in an American newspaper. If he did say this, then my only explanation is that he panicked somewhat, sought a way to rid himself of the affair, and chose to use an Israeli whom he barely knew. All in all he met me perhaps on two occasions. And this is the reason he did what he did.

[Ben-'Ami] Finally, Mr Kimche, have you still not been asked to answer the questions or to testify before some U.S. body investigating this affair?

[Kimche] No, I have not been approached.

Ministry Calls Report 'Baseless'

TA311145 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1199 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] The Foreign Ministry spokesman in Jerusalem described as baseless the report in *The New York Times* that claimed that David Kimche had initiated the transfer of funds to the Nicaraguan contras. Our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami points out that the quote in *The New York Times* was attributed to an anonymous source in Congress and was based on the hearsay testimony of Attorney General Edwin Meese following a talk he had held with Colonel Oliver North.

Officials Express 'Outrage' at Murder of Jews

TA311152 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] Israeli officials in Jerusalem have expressed outrage at the murder of three innocent Jews in Lebanon. The officials said that the murder of the three shows the real face of the terrorist groups in Lebanon.

An underground Shi'ite group in Beirut said earlier this morning that it executed three Lebanese Jews held hostage over the last 2 years. The group, called the Oppressed of the Earth, accused the three of spying for Israel and said their bodies would not be returned unless Israel withdrew from south Lebanon, released all Palestinian and Shi'ite prisoners, and stopped incursions against south Lebanon.

Peres on Syria, Lebanese Christian-PLO Ties

TA301715 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Vice Prime Minister Shim'on Peres believes that Syria is currently in a difficult situation and can no longer set the rules of the game in the Middle East. Its attempt to gain control over Lebanon has failed, its economy is in a bitter state, and the European countries are aware of Damascus' role in encouraging terrorism.

Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports that Mr Peres was talking to reporters in the course of a tour of Zikhron Ya'aqov. He repeated that despite the Lebanese Christians' denial, Israel has conclusive evidence testifying to a growing affinity between the various Christian groups and the PLO.

Tamir Reportedly Joined Mubarak in Al-'Aqabah

TA301106 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 30 Dec 86 p 2

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Text] Foreign Ministry Director General Avraham Tamir will meet with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak in Cairo today. Mubarak has just ended a series of talks with King Husayn in Al-'Aqabah.

Persistent rumors are spreading among Egyptian diplomatic circles about meetings between Tamir and Jordanian officials in the framework of Foreign Minister Peres' attempts to convene a preparatory committee for an international conference on the Middle East.

One of the Egyptian diplomatic sources went as far as saying that Tamir joined Mubarak on his trip to Al-'Aqabah. However, there is no confirmation of reports about Tamir's contacts with Jordanian officials and his visit to Al-'Aqabah.

Hadashot has learned that Foreign Minister Peres has conveyed through Mubarak a message to Husayn in which he asks the king to agree to send Jordanian representatives of Palestinian origin to the preparatory committee.

King Husayn is still hesitant about this and has not given a final answer. The issue of an international conference was raised in the meetings between Husayn and Mubarak in Al-'Aqabah. The Foreign Ministry is awaiting Husayn's answer, which is expected to come through Mubarak.

Peres intends to travel to Cairo soon for a meeting with Mubarak in order to advance the political process. The U.S. Administration is also preparing to examine the chances for advancing the process by sending Richard Murphy for a tour of the region's capitals. Murphy will visit Israel, Egypt, and Jordan before Shamir goes to Washington in approximately a month.

Contrary to the efforts of the Foreign Ministry to push the political process forward, the Prime Minister's Office is not very enthusiastic. Sources close to Shamir said that the chances of advancing the political process in the near future are slim.

Reports on 'Good' Talks

TA301717 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Foreign Ministry Director General Avraham Tamir today wound up his talks in Cairo. He was presented today with new Egyptian ideas for peace in the Middle East. After a 2-hour meeting with Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Majid, Tamir said the talks were good, but refused to divulge details on the new Egyptian proposals.

Al-Majid, for his part, said that Egypt is interested in an international peace conference but that Israel's position on the matter has not changed. The two parties had agreed on a preparatory committee for the international conference as far back as at the September meeting between Peres and Mubarak. Al-Majid added that work is underway for another Peres visit to Egypt.

The Egyptian Foreign Ministry has reported that the working sessions were dedicated to an examination of the measures that would allow for the peace process to revive in view of Israel's acceptance of the principle of holding an international conference.

Tamir expressed his satisfaction with the development of bilateral ties, noting that they are taking a normal course.

Summit Possible

TA251321 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 25 Dec 86

[Text] Egyptian Ambassador in Israel Muhammad Basyuni has said that a summit meeting between the leaders of Israel and Egypt, Yitzhaq Shamir and Husni Mubarak, should not be ruled out. Speaking to our correspondent Bassam Ja'bar, the Egyptian ambassador said that although it is not cutomary to hold summit meetings at such frequent intervals, and despite the fact that such a meeting was held about 2 months ago, if Mubarak and Shamir needed to confer urgently such a meeting would be held. Basyuni added that the dialogue between the two leaders is currently conducted through an exchange of letters and messages and that this was no secret.

Youths Wounded by IDF Shots; Other Disturbances

TA281129 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 28 Dec 86

[Text] Two youths were slightly injured in Ramallah today from shots fired by IDF soldiers while dispersing a demonstration. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that this morning youths blocked off one of the roads leading out of Ramallah. Stones were thrown at security forces that arrived at the site, and a foot chase after the stone throwers ensued. An IDF officer called on the youths to stop, and as they fled he opened fire at them. One of the youths was wounded in his leg and the other in his buttocks.

Our correspondent notes that there were two other cases of disturbances and of Palestinian flags being flown in Qalandiyah and Ramallah. The incidents marked the anniversary of the

foundation of Fatah, which will take place in a few days, as well as the expulsion of *Al-Sha'b* Editor Akhram Haniyah, who left for Geneva this morning.

Millions Spent on Export Plants in Territories
TA250759 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 25 Dec 86 p 4

[Report by Gershom Gorenberg]

[Excerpt] While the political debate on settlement activity focuses on new towns and villages, the government is spending millions on building export-oriented factories in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Israel's free trade pacts with the U.S. and the European Community legally do not apply to goods from Israeli industry in the territories — but the Americans and Europeans appear to be diplomatically turning a blind eye.

Eliyahu Attiya, Industry Minister Ari'el Sharon's adviser on the territories, says he hasn't "run into problems" with exports from Israeli factories in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

In the meantime, Sharon's ministry is building a string of regional industrial centres in the territories and giving big incentives to entrepreneurs to set up factories there.

"There's more action" under Sharon than under previous ministers, said Attiya, who has been in charge of development in the West Bank and Gaza Strip for 10 years.

The most recent figures the ministry can provide show that it budgeted some $19.5 million for grants to "approved enterprises" in the territories in the first seven months of this year — nearly one- third more than was spent in all of 1985. In April-July this year, the ministry said, it put out $860,000 on developing industrial parks, practically as much as it spent in the previous 12 months.

The new economic programme apparently "won't affect investments in Judaea and Samaria," ministry spokeswoman Haya Peri told *The Jerusalem Post* this week. But she added: "That's the situation now. We'll see what happens when the committees finish their work (on revamping the plan)."

Businessmen who set up approved factories in the territories get ministry grants for up to 39 per cent of their equipment costs, Attiya said. The ministry also provides space in industrial parks at low prices.

Attiya estimated that there are now 300-350 Israeli factories in the territories, "from workshops with two employees to plants with 150 or more." He rattled off examples: One textile plant at the Qarne Shomron industrial park has over 200 workers. At the Barqan centre further east on the Trans-Samaria Highway, over 100 people work in an electronics plant; another factory produces high-fashion eyeglass frames, yet another manufactures car parts.

Attiya said the ministry's goal was to provide jobs for settlers, and most of the 3,000-4,000 workers in the factories were Israelis.

Israel's industrial stake in the territories was continuing to grow, he indicated. [passage omitted]

Large-Scale Plan To Expand Arab W. Bank Towns
TA311130 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 31 Dec 86 p 7

[Report by Nadav Ha'etzni]

[Excerpts] A large-scale plan to expand the territory of 15 West Bank towns entered into advanced stages of implementation this week. By the end of this week approximately 7,000 dunams will be added to Nabulus, while 2 weeks ago the muncipal area of Janin was doubled and is now estimated to be 10,000 dunams.

Knesset members, government elements, and settlement bodies claim that this move is a political one in preparation for the establishment of an infrastructure for unilateral autonomy in the territories. Quiet attempts have been made in recent months to prevent the implementation of the plan; these attempts include approaches to the prime minister, the defense minister, ministers, and administrative leaders in the territories, but they were unsuccessful. [passage omitted]

Settlement leaders in the West Bank contend that the authorization of the expansion is aimed at "strangling the Jewish settlements by establishing de facto conditions that will prevent any real expansion of the Jewish infrastructure."

Settlement leader Beni Qatzover told *Hadashot* yesterday: "The planned move will give the Arab municipalities and towns a much greater say, as part of the political aim of transferring as much authority and assets as possible to the Arabs."

Qatzover claims that the move was planned by Rabin and Peres, and through it the Alignment hopes to implement the unilateral autonomy plan under the Likud's very nose. "We are talking here about a policy that significantly contradicts the lines of policy followed up until not so long ago. It is harming everything that until now has been considered the State of Israel's vital interests."

Official sources told *Hadashot* in reaction that "Israel's policy in the territories is not meant to harm Israeli interests; it is aimed at improving the situation of the arab population, which is considered to be the State of Israel's interest. The move is not a politically-orchestrated one, but rather one that is aimed at correcting several historical distortions and which will meet the pressing needs of the municipalities in the territories."

Rabin Comments on Successful Lavi Maiden Flight
TA311315 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1230 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] A few minutes ago Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin reported to the Knesset plenum on the Lavi's maiden flight. This

is what Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said in the Knesset plenum:

[Begin Rabin recording] I would like to take advantage of the fact that I am standing on the podium here to inform the Knesset members that the first prototype of the Lavi plane successfully took off and landed safely, remaining in the air for approximately 30 minutes. I congratulate Israel Aircraft Industries on this achievement; I congratulate those people who invested the best of their technological ability in the development of the plane.

I would like to add that we are still only at the very start of the process, and facing us are many obstacles in the way of realizing the government's decision to continue the development and production of the Lavi. These take the form of both the many reservations on the part of the United States, which is almost the sole body financing the development of the Lavi, as well as the defense establishment's budgetary capability in light of the increase in labor costs, and the lack of even any assistance to theAircraft Industries to the tune of $120 million, which the United States usually extends to Israel for projects designated for export.

The obstacles are still many, but I have no doubt that the take-off and safe landing of the first test plane marks an important landmark in the development of the Lavi, and marks an impressive achievement for Israeli technology and the people behind it. [end recording]

On Results of Defense Cuts

TA301134 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 30 Dec 86 p 2

[Report by 'Imanu'el Elneqave and Arye Egozi]

[Excerpt] "As a result of the defense budget cuts we have had to ground dozens of planes and hundreds of tanks and to disband several units. In the event of a war the IDF will be smaller on land, at sea, and in the air."

These comments were made by Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin in Bet- She'an yesterday. Answering local industrialists, Rabin added: "The party is over. Because of a $600-million cut we had to dismiss 600 career army personnel and civilians who work for the IDF. At least 5,000 industrial workers have been dismissed in various factories throughout the country because of a decrease in orders from the defense establishment." [passage omitted]

OAU's Oumarou Urges End to Fighting in Chad
NC301812 Paris AFP in English 1715 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Addis Ababa, Dec 30 (AFP) — Organization of African Unity (OAU) Secretary General Ide Oumarou on Tuesday called for an immediate end to the fighting between pro-government and Libyan forces in northern Chad, and said he would be visiting both Tripoli and Ndjamena from Friday in a bid to bring peace. The statement, part of a year-end message by Mr. Oumarou, followed sharp criticism from the French-backed Chadian Government of alleged OAU indifference to the conflict. Both Libya and Chad are members of the pan-African body.

It also came as the current OAU chairman, President Denis Sassou Nguesso of Congo, was in Gabon with Prime Minister Jacques Chirac of France. The two men, and their host President Omar Bongo of Gabon, were expected to discuss the fighting in Chad, which is a former French colony.

In his statement, Mr. Oumarou said that hostilities should end immediately "so that dialogue among Chadians, which has already borne some fruit, will resume." Mr. Oumarou made no reference to French and American support for the Ndjamena government of President Hissein Habre, nor to Libya's direct involvement in the current battles in the far north-west of the country.

France, which has warplanes and about 1,200 troops in Chad to back Mr. Habre, said on Tuesday that it was boosting its military aid. Last week the United States provided emergency military aid worth 15 million dollars to the government forces.

The OAU chief's cautious remarks, which refrained from putting the blame at anyone's door, was seen here as reflecting a desire to mediate in the conflict.

Chad has been a thorn in the flesh of the OAU for many years, long defying a solution in spite of it being the first African country to which an OAU peace-keeping force was dispatched, in 1981. However, the issue has been more or less on the sidelines since June 1982, when President Habre took power in Ndjamena and won recognition by the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement and the OAU.

In other parts of his message, Mr. Oumarou also called for a ceasefire in the Western Sahara conflict, calling on the protagonists — the Polisario Front and Morocco — to work toward a peaceful solution along the lines of OAU and UN efforts. However he made no direct mention of Morocco, which quit the OAU two years ago in protest over the body's admission of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) proclaimed for the territory by the Polisario Front.

Mr. Oumarou also called for increased pressure to end apartheid in South Africa.

In his generally optimistic message, the OAU secretary general hailed the recent resolution of a border dispute between Burkino Faso and Mali through the International Court of Justice, and a thaw in relations between Sierra Leone and Liberia. He said 1987 would be a good year for Africa if the "fighting spirit" and the momentum of international pressures against Pretoria were maintained until jailed anti-apartheid leader Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners were freed, the liberation movements where "legitimized" and Namibia became independent. He also called on Africans to honour commitments made at a special U.N. session in New York in June aimed at restructuring their economies.

ALGIERS

President Bendjedid Addresses Central Committee

LD292256 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] The 17th session of the Central Committee, which opened yesterday under the chairmanship of President Chadli Bendjedid, president of the republic and FLN Secretary General, concluded its work this afternoon.

President Chadli Bendjedid delivered an important speech concluding the work of this session, after the unanimous ratification of the resolutions prepared by committees concerning the activities and program of the party regarding education, vocational training, health, housing, and the economic crisis. A resolution on general policy was ratified.

In his speech concluding the work of the 17th Central Committee session the president analyzed the most important national and international issues, especially during the current stage which is characterized by the effects of the economic crisis on the economies of the Third World. In this connection he pointed out Algeria's efforts to face up to these pressures using all the available national resources and the complete mobilization of activists at all levels within a framework of unity of thought and action in order to guarantee harmony in action.

The president talked about some phenomena that have a negative effect on Algerian youth and contradict the elements of our national character, especially as this part of society is called upon to continue the march toward a better future. The president said this will not happen unless this part of society is immune against all the trends that contradict our Islamic Arab nature and unless it is saturated with our national spirit.

The president stressed that the coming year will be a year of resolve and self-reliance.

The five resolutions ratified at the 17th Central Committee session recorded the great importance attached by Algeria to the mobilization of vital resources in order to consolidate the course of national development. This stems from the importance of the current stage and its need for increased perception. The resolutions stressed the necessity to continue total mobilization in order to strengthen the values of solidarity and cooperation among the various sectors of the people. They recommended consolidating the results achieved, continuing the steady process of reform, implementing the slogan of work and firmness to secure the future, and consolidating efforts to implement the resolutions of the Fourth National Seminar for Development and the resolutions of the Central Committee. This should be done in a proper understanding and committed manner guaranteeing the best use of resources, energies and abilities and good control over economic development and management and planning methods. This will ensure modernization and make it possible to maintain all-round development as well as to face up to the challenges of the international economic crisis and its negative effects on the national economy.

The 17th Central Committee also ratified a resolution on general policy that encompassed the main internal and external lines of Algerian policy.

LIBYA

U.S. Seeking 'Chadian Inferno' To Divert Opinion

LD291951 Tripoli JANA in English 1426 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] Tripoli, Al Kanoun 29, *Jamahiriyah News Agency* — The *Green March* weekly out today has published a commentary entitled 'Why Chad Now."

It says that puppet Egyptian Butrus Ghali [Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs] has paid a visit to Lusaka to propagate what his Western masters have ordered him to say.

The U.S. tottering Black House is also trying in vain to find a way out of its crisis through Chadian inferno to divert the public opinion.

Similarly, the paper adds, the leftist-headed and rightist-bodied French Government is also doing likewise, not to mention the pressure placed on it by U.S. Administration.

To find an answer to this question, the paper continues, we have to ascertain the links of this matter.

After the failure of all hostile acts against Great al-Jamahiriya starting from political pressures, economic sanctions, the direct U.S. NATO aggression accompanied by the psychological warfare, imperialism has now resorted to start the hostilities yet again in Chad, the aim being as follows:

— Provoking Great al-Jamahiriya on its southern borders across Chad.
— Finding a way out of the internal crisis in the imperialist and reactionary states.
— Divert the world public opinion to problems that have been faked up.
— Trying to find out a fabricated justification against Great al-Jamahiriya accusing it of a new charge.

This can be seen in the comment made in Lusaka by Butrus Ghali. It is not a new thing whatsoever.

We know why the puppet Egyptian regime has been poking its nose in this conspiracy. In addition to its role in serving the imperialists' schemes in the region, the visit paid by beggar al-Barik [Mubarak], head of this regime, to Paris and other western capitals and the visit paid by Mitterrand to Egypt aim at achieving this purpose.

The paper points out that any observer will find it easy to see that Egyptian regime is in complicity in this plot to pay for the funds it received during the visit for alms paid by its head to western countries.

The paper stresses that the Chadian problem is purely Chadian. It only concerns the Chadian people. Should a necessity arise to

find an outside solution, the Organization of African Unity is the one quarter to address it.

Neither France nor the U.S. are concerned with the interest of the Chadian people, for they look after their own imperialist interest which contradict that of the Chadian people and Africa. What the imperialist countries are concerned with is the creation of problems in Africa and specifically for Great al-Jamahiriya because it represents a fortress of pride, revolution and African glory.

The paper stresses that despite the impending overthrow of the Egyptian regime at the hands of the Egyptian citizens themselves, this regime by passing its own internal problems and how to find a way out of the swamp of shame it has been waging represented by the capitulationist accords with the Zionists, it still binds itself to the imperialist forces.

The paper concludes that to lay a siege to Great al-Jamahiriya is complete nonsense, for this imperialist wishful thinking cannot be materialized because here in Great al-Jamahiriya the people rule themselves by themselves. It is something beyond the capability of tottering governments. Such a country like Great al-Jamahiriya based on its people is too strong for such governments. It is capable of destroying all their faulty tactics once it enters this place backed by its solid wall.

Egypt Said Supporting Habre

LD270934 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0730 GMT 27 Dec 86

[Text] Al-Maghurah, 27 Dec (JANA) — The Foreign Ministry of the Egyptian regime has shed crocodile tears for the agent of America and France, Habre, and his gangs in Ndjamena.

Upon U.S. orders it has issued a statement, quoting Washington, full of slander and lies.

The Egyptian regime's statement has come following Mitterrand's visit to Al-Maqhurah [Cairo] during the last 2 days.

Acheikh Ibn Oumar, the new leader of the legitimate GUNT in Chad, had stressed earlier, however, that forces of the Al-Barik [Mubarak] regime have for some time been supporting the gang of agent Habre in their annihilation war against the citizens of Chad's villages and towns which support the new legitimate GUNT.

Senegal's Diouf Criticized for Chad Interview

LD290920 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0215 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] A responsible source at the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison has stated the following:

Senegalese President Abdou Diouf has given an interview to the newspaper *Liberation* that was fraught with fallacies and contained an open invitation for the internationalization of the internal conflict in Chad and for the intensification of intervention by France, the United States, and any other party capable of intervening in this country.

Although this interview shows the extent of the organic link and subservience that characterize relations between France and the rulers of its colonies, it affirms that imperialism cannot do without the cheap roles of its agents in covering up its aggressive designs in more than one place on the African Continent.

To set Abdou Diouf and the fallacies he uttered straight, the spokesman of the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison wishes to state the following:

1. The interview is a clear manifestation of complete subservience to orders issued by the Elysee Palace in Paris to one of its henchmen, directing him to make statements. The choice of the man and the newspaper was not accidental, for *Liberation* is financed and guided directly by the French Palace of the Republic. As for Abdou Diouf, it suffices to prove his position that his minister of interior and the man responsible for his personal safety who has direct authority over the Senegalese Army is a Frenchman named (Pierre Cologne), who at this very moment holds French nationality. Abdou Diouf can take no decision without his approval.

2. Abdou Diouf was asked to give this interview to express the views of the agent forces of France in Africa.

3. Abdou Diouf has talked of the departure of what he called the Libyan forces in Chad, but he said nothing about the French and U.S. forces of intervention in that country. His position is fraught with fallacies. The presence of 4,000 French soldiers in Senegal does not seem to arouse any concern for him, as he does not care if the French forces were to occupy Chad, Senegal, or the whole of Africa as long as the French military presence on the continent provides security for the agents.

4. In his interview, Abdou Diouf has stated that the time for rhetoric by those concerned with the Chad problem has ended, and that the time for action in Chad has come. But he has forgotten that the time for action seems more pressing in Senegal for the sake of liberating the Senegalese people from French occupation.

5. The interview given by Abdou Diouf has expressed in deed a hostile stand toward the Chadian people and the Libyan people and to the fraternal relations that bind them to the great Senegalese people, a people which on more than one occasion have expressed their rejection of the policy of subservience to France and their determination to liberate the Senegal people, land and resources so that this Muslim country would play its historic role within the continent's struggle against the forces of domination and hegemony.

The statements of Abdou Diouf fall within the framework of the statements made by Butrus Ghali, the state foreign minister of Al-Barik regime, who contrasted the Jamahiriyah's threatening role to the interests of the West today to the role of Carthage in threatening Rome in the past.

Diouf utters fallacies and falsifications just to please his masters, while Ghali instigates the others against a revolution that stands with history in affirming its just causes. However, there is an organic bond in the relations between the two men in regard to the source of orders, for it is the same — whether the headquarters is in the Elysee Palace in Paris or the Black House in Washington or both.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Messages From USSR, SFRY

LD301733 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1120 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Tripoli, 30 Dec (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution received the Soviet ambassador to the Great Jamahiriyah [date not specified] who conveyed to the leader a New Year message from CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev. This meeting falls within the framework of the revolution leadership and the Supreme Soviet [as received] exchanging views on the current international situation. The brother leader of the revolution also received the Yugoslav ambassador to the Great Jamahiriyah. The leader conveyed to him a message for the chairman of the Yugoslav Presidium Council. [title as received]

UK MP's Send Message in Support of Rapprochement

LD301556 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] A number of members of the British House of Commons, in the U.S. stationary aircraft-carrier Britain, sent a message to the brother leader, the text of which follows:

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, On behalf of a group of members of the Parliament, the House of Commons, and members of the Labour Party who are friends of the people of the Great Jamahiriyah, we send our best wishes to you and to the people of the Great Jamahiriyah. We will continue to work for a rapprochement between the British and Libyan peoples, taking into consideration that there are good reasons for a rapprochement between us; but, unfortunately, Thatcher's government is not helping in this rapprochement. Thus, we hope that the Labour Party will return to power in the next general elections in order to achieve this rapprochement. Our hopes are great for 1987. With our best greetings.

Signed by:

Ron Brown, speaker of the House of Commons [title as heard]

Tom Pendry, secretary and member of the House of Commons

MOROCCO

King Hassan Receives Kuwaiti Official

LD250032 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 24 Dec 86

[Text] His Majesty King Hassan II, may God grant him victory, received this evening at the Royal Palace in Rabat, Mr Sa'ud al-'Usaymi, Kuwaiti minister of state for foreign affairs. He was accompanied by his country's ambassador, Mr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Sar'awi.

This audience was also attended by Mr Abdellatif Filali, minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

SUDAN

Prime Minister Meets Press, Discusses South

EA302110 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1710 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Statement by Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi at a meeting with Sudanese journalists on 30 December; place not specified — recorded]

[Text] First let me welcome you, brothers, to this meeting, one of our periodic encounters. As usual, we will start with a short introduction and then we will deal with questions and comments, God willing.

The first thing I want to talk about now is the subject of the policy of the government toward the south, the general outlines. I will speak about the new administrative measures which will soon be applied. As you know, the policy of the government has always followed four courses.

The first course is a peaceful solution to the existing conflict. As a result of this a Ministry of Peace was set up. It faced difficulties at first, but now we are strengthening this ministry so that it can actually undertake large-scale activities from the start of the New Year. We will also set up a national committee to act as a think tank for the preparation of a national constitutional conference. The ministry will also be supported, so that it can discharge its duties to peace and help prepare for the national constitutional conference.

The second course is security. The situation in relation to the Sudanese Armed Forces is this: The Armed Forces have taken the initiative and have moved on to the offensive. The ultimate purpose of this is not to solve the problem in a conclusive military way but to deny the aggressors themselves an opportunity to impose a military solution. They are to be deprived of all positions acquired during the defunct regime. During the defunct regime they succeeded in disrupting lines of communication in the south. They also succeeded in occupying some positions.

All these matters are now under review. The Armed Forces have been able to achieve success. Their work is appreciated. They have opened up all channels of communication to ensure their safety. Incidentally, we must admit that during the dictatorial regime the aggressors pursued an enlightened policy. Their sole concern was to attack military targets. They used to be concerned about the truth in reporting their attacks. But now they have slipped very badly. They concentrate their attention, really, on attacking civilian areas in a clearly terroristic manner. Also, their pronouncements have become largely false.

As you know, they recently announced that the barges that went to Malakal for relief purposes were attacked and sunk. The truth is quite the opposite. The barges arrived safely, God be praised. A news team went to Kosti to record the event. Like others, this channel of communication is now being used to connect this part of Sudan to that part of Sudan. The important thing is that the Armed Forces have succeeded in ensuring the security of these channels and now the air, river, and land routes, as well as the railways, have resumed operation.

We are pursuing, as I have said, a security course whose purpose is to open up further channels and the purpose is to ensure the security of areas of production. This has already been achieved. The purpose is also to attack positions which the aggressive movement managed to exploit at a time when the authorities were not concerned.

As I have said, it is part of the government's duty to provide security for its citizens. But this is no substitute for what we believe is really needed, that is, a peaceful settlement of the problem. However, it is a duty that must be discharged. The Armed Forces — God be praised — are performing with high efficiency and will continue to discharge their duty.

The third course is diplomatic. [Words indistinct] to expose the aggression as terrorist aggression, linked to outsiders, and to stress that all the issues related to this — the relationship between peoples of different religions, different customs — can be peacefully resolved in Sudan.

It is true that in the past there were two obstacles. There was the view of many northerners that many southerners wanted to secede. There was also the view of many southerners that many northerners wanted to force a different religion or a different culture or civilization on them. These two viewpoints were the reasons behind much misunderstanding and made it impossible to achieve understanding.

But now these two reasons have disappeared completely. There is no one in the north, as far as I know — even among the most diehard elements — there is no one today who does not accept that there is a multireligion society in Sudan. What is needed is that those of the dominant faith who want to apply the principles of their religion should consider carefully the fact that as far as citizenship is concerned, there should be equality, and that as far as human and (?religious) rights are concerned, others should be able to exercise all their rights. This deals with one of the obstacles.

The other obstacle is the separatist question. I can stress that the southern brothers, with the different parties and objectives that they now have, mostly support the unity of Sudan. So, there is no real obstacle. All that is required is to sit down and solve the problem. Anyway at the diplomatic level, what we want to stress and clarify, is that Sudan now has a democratic system, a system that respects human rights and the freedom and rights of religions. It is ready to solve its development problems. It considers this war to be an imported war with foreign motives. And if there is any Sudanese motivation involved, it is the motivation of those who want to force political ideas on their homeland.

This should be prohibited because (?all of us), all of us should realize that there is no room to impose any opinion on others by force, whether that opinion be prominent or correct. If we, the people of Sudan, cannot all agree on this principle, that noone should be allowed to impose his opinions, no matter how correct, by force, then we have failed in our democratic experience. This is the third course.

The fourth course is that related to the administration of the south. From the transitional period we inherited an administration in the south that was based on an emergency and transient factors. As a result of discussions we have now initiated the following reforms.

The first reform is that as regards our people in the southern regions we should concentrate our (?efforts) on naturalization and providing them with a comfortable living and services. That is why, when we met the governors, we discussed education, health, food, and all that is related to life in order to safeguard the continued activity of those of them at work and to repair the institutions, in order to open more of them [passage indistinct].

Dialogue With SPLM 'Possible'

JN311012 Khartoum SUNA in English 0930 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] Khartoum, Dec. 31 (SUNA) — Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi announced here that he had just received new ideas from the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) which seems to show signs that fresh development on the resumption of dialogue between the government and SPLM may be possible once more.

He said during the meeting with Sudanese pressmen leaders yesterday that he had not had the chance to look closely at the new ideas but that the government will study and react to them.

Al-Mahdi said the government had given a series of guidelines to all those who were interested in contacts with the SPLM and that if the guidelines were adhered to and new positive signs came to light, the government would respond to them in similar veins.

Legal Issues, Iran-Iraq Plan Topics at Meeting

JN301937 Khartoum SUNA in English 1756 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Khartoum, 30 Dec (SUNA) — The government will activate its move towards achieving peace and convening the proposed constitutional conference that will review the current problems of the country among them the southern Sudan cause Premier al-Sadiq al-Mahdi announced Tuesday.

Al-Mahdi, who held a press conference here today said all the concerned bodies were invited to take part in the national committee of the constitutional conference affairs.

The prime minister stressed the necessity of the participation of the opposition group in the said conference.

Meanwhile, Al-Mahdi announced that a high national economic planning council will be formed to set-up a plan for economic development.

The committee revising the laws that will substitute Sept. sharia laws imposed by ousted President Numayri, has finalized its mission and the new laws will be presented before the public for discussion, Al-Mahdi said.

On the Iraqi-Iranian war Al-Mahdi confirmed the Iranian pledge to study the proposals, for ending war which he presented to the Iranian authorities during his visit to Iran two weks ago.

Coordination Council To Be Set Up in South
JN301909 Khartoum SUNA in English 1753 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Khartoum, 30 Dec (SUNA) — Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi announced Tuesday that the government will set-up a high coordination council in the southern Sudan headed by an independent southerner.

Al-Mahdi said in a press statement here today the council will include three independent southern persons in addition to the governors of the three regions of southern Sudan, which he said will be chosen from the southern Sudan political parties.

The government decision in this matter is based on the understanding that all the decisions concerning southern Sudan administration taken during the defunct regime were illegal. In addition to Equatorial MPS rejection, the High Executive Council. [as received]

Al-Mahdi today discussed with the southern Sudan Political Alliance leader, a representative of Sudanese African Congress, the leader of Sudan National Party, representative of the National Unionist Party the current national issues.

Congress Rejects Council
JN301143 Khartoum SUNA in English 1025 GMT 30 Dec 86

(Text) Khartoum, Dec. 30 (SUNA) — The Sudanese African Congress Party refused the government determination to form a high coordinatory council for the administration in southern Sudan. In a statement it issued yesterday the party described this measure as illegal and violates the articles of Addis Ababa accord for 1972 and the transitional constitution for 1985. The party will not participate in the said council, the statement said. It to be recalled that other southern parties called for the formation of the said council.

Joint Ministerial Meeting With Libya Postponed
JN301137 Khartoum SUNA in English 1030 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Khartoum, Dec. 30 (SUNA) The meetings of the joint Sudanese-Libyan ministerial committee, scheduled to begin here today, have been postponed for Jan. 6.

The Libyan delegation, which will be chaired by the Libyan Popular Committee's secretary for foreign affairs, is due to arrive here Jan. 5.

The meeting is expected to focus on the developing bilateral relations, assessment of what had been agreed upon during the committee's last meeting in Tripoli, working out a future cooperation programme between the two countries and removal of obstacles impeding the implementation of the agreements concluded by the two sides.

Minister Makes Statement on Return From Egypt
JN301948 Khartoum SUNA in English 1740 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Khartoum, Dec 30, — Foreign Minister al-Sharif Zayn al-'Abidin al-Hindi said that he had met during his visit to Egypt with President Husni Mubarak and Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid with whom he discussed bilateral relations and issues of mutual concern.

In a press statement on his return from Cairo today Al-Hindi said that the expected visit of Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi to Egypt will put an end to speculations on the Sudanese-Egyptian relations.

Al-Hindi said the Egyptian president has expressed readiness to contact the Ethiopian Government to discuss the rebellion in southern Sudan. This would probably take place during the expected visit of Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile Mariam to Egypt, Al-Hindi added.

Al-Hindi said the Egyptian president had expressed discontent over Ethiopia's repeated aggression against Sudan referring to the strategic threat that the rebellion in Southern Sudan poses both to Egypt and Sudan.

On the other hand Al-Hindi held meetings with the Arab foreign ministers in the margin of the Arab League emergency meeting held in Tunisia on Dec. 22.

Omdurman Denies Radio SPLA's Reports on Fighting
EA282232 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1606 GMT 28 Dec 86

[From the "People's Armed Forces Program"]

[Text] Brothers, comrades in arms: The puppet John Garang's radio continues unashamedly to repeat shameful lies. It thinks that the citizens still believe its fabrications. Thus it is demonstrating its complete ignorance and its remoteness from the citizens who have suffered from its inhuman practices. They have been the target of its malicious and ferocious practices.

The citizen knows full well where his interests lie. He knows who are the ones standing by his side in his suffering, protecting him and sharing their food with him, however meager it may be. They are the members of our brave Armed Forces who stand by the side of their unarmed and innocent people, defending them and sacrificing their lives for them.

The misguided and lying puppet rebel radio, run by Abyssinian intelligence, thinks that the citizens in the south still open their ears to their lies, not realizing that those ears have been closed for a long time. Everyone knows the truth. Everyone knows the extent of the deception practiced by the traitor John Garang through his puppet radio.

Recently this exhausted radio has begun claiming imaginary victories. This is the style of incapacitated people. Their cowardly and dispirited forces have been defeated by our advancing Armed Forces in all the regions of the south. their foolish commanders have now seen fit to continue fighting through fabricated military communiques. This weapon, in turn, has also lost its effectiveness and credibility. This has made all the people turn away from it. When they do listen to it, they listen to amuse themselves and to show their derision.

The latest of these silly allegations was dated 27 December. The treacherous and mercenary radio claimed that they had killed Captain Munir Bastan Abduh, Sergeant 'Abd al-Mutal, and eight others at (Lukunah) station. That was mere falsehood. Capt Munir Bastan Abduh has personally denied the allegation. He expressed surprise at the insolence, which has become a constant attribute of the rebels' radio. He said that he was all right and that all the forces that were with him were all right. The truth of the matter, which the rebel radio did not dare mention, was that a unit of the (Lukunah) forces, under the command of Capt Munir Bastan Abduh, attacked the island of (Yei Deng), after receiving information that a rebel force was in [word indistinct]. The attack was a success, and our forces managed to kill Lieutenant Samuel and eight others. As a result of that attack six soldiers joined our forces in Bentiu the very next day.

That was the information the radio of the traitors wanted to broadcast to its collapsing and fragmented forces in a vain attempt to raise the morale of fighters whose morale has fallen to the lowest levels. But, impossible. All the lies were exposed. The condition of their forces is plain for all to see. They have become looting and plundering gangs, and not one of their leaders, who are enjoying themselves in the paradise of Ethiopia, can allege to have any control over them. The reins of power have slipped from their grasp and they have become totally confused.

Tomorrow God will witness the fall of that desperate movement which has never served the purposes of any but the enemies of the homeland and humanity, freedom and democracy. God is great. Victory to our courageous Armed Forces, and failure and shame to Garang's forces and their unsuccessful radio!

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR Forces Kill 13 Moroccan Soldiers

LD281308 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 28 Dec 86

[Text] The Saharan Democratic Arab Republic's Information Ministry released a statement this morning that included the results of attacks carried out by units of the Saharan National Liberation Army against the royal Moroccan forces. Saharan revolutionaries carried out two attacks against the royal forces stationed in [words indistinct] region, killing 13 Moroccan soldiers and wounding others, destroying military machinery and trenches, and capturing arms and ammunition.

CHAD

Radio Says USSR 'Military Experts' Aiding Libya

AB310934 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 0530 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Excerpt] After its massive material and diplomatic support to Libya in its military incursion in Chad, the USSR is now sending military experts to the northern part of our country. Faced with the successive setbacks suffered by the Libyan colonel and his men, Moscow has now decided to send military experts (?to train) the Libyan Army. These experts are specialized notably in the areas of heavy artillery, aviation, and counterinsurgency warfare, areas where the Libyan people [words indistinct]. The experts are based at Aouzou in Chadian territory, (?which serves) as the logistic base for the Libyan Army, and at Ouaddi-Doum, which the Libyans have transformed into a 400-meter-long [figure as heard] airstrip to enable all types of planes to land there.

These reports once again confirm the Soviet-Libyan plot against Chad (?to turn it into) a satellite of the Soviet Union maintained in Africa by Libya. It equally proves Tripoli's inability to face alone the war it had thought would be easy. Techniques imported from Afghanistan by the Red Army [words indistinct]. [passage omitted]

CDR Accuses Niger of Aiding Ndjamena Troops

AB301631 Paris AFP in French 1517 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Paris, 30 Dec (AFP) — The Revolutionary Democratic Council (CDR), a Chadian faction of the GUNT led by Acheikh Ibn Oumar, on Tuesday accused Niger of allowing the Chadian Government column sent to aid in the rescue of Chadian fighters in the Tibesti area to transit through its territory.

In a communique issued in Paris, the CDR says such "complacency" may seriously hamper "all the efforts made over the past 4 years by the OAU and some friendly countries to bring peace back to Chad."

"In the face of this complacency of President Seyni Kountche's government," the communique adds, "the CDR will not remain indifferent."

Monday in Niamey, Kountche made it a point to reaffirm to the French and Libyan ambassadors his country's neutrality in the current conflict. He pointed out that no air or land transit facility had been or would be offered to either side in the conflict.

Chadian circles in Paris said on Tuesday that willingly or unwillingly, Niger was involved in this conflict. The Libyans, they said, have been using the Toumo base, which they have been illegally occupying for many years in northern Niger.

According to these circles, a Niger vehicle recently blew up on a Libyan mine on the Toumo-Seguedine-Zouar road.

Four Foreign Journalists Expelled 30 Dec

AU301437 Paris AFP in English 1429 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Paris, Dec 30 (AFP) — Four foreign journalists who had arrived in Chad to cover the fighting between Libyan and Chadian forces in the far north of the country were expelled on Tuesday.

The four worked for the French newspapers *Le Monde* and *Le Figaro*, for *Agence France-Presse* and for REUTER news agency. With the exception of the REUTER correspondent, who came to Chad on Saturday, they all arrived here on Monday evening.

However another reporter for AFP, who arrived in the country earlier, was allowed to stay.

Ahmad Allam-Mi, the Chadian ambassador in Paris, said the journalists had only tourist visas and had been warned that this would not be enough to grant them access to Chad.

Last week Chadian authorities announced that foreign journalists would be required to submit all articles to authorities for approval. On Monday authorities refused reporters permission to file articles on the situation in the country.

The refusal followed reports from reliable sources in Paris that Libyan troops had captured the strategic northern town of Zouar from pro-government forces after two weeks of fighting.

Radio Denies Expulsion

AB302028 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Those who listen to foreign radios may have heard this afternoon an erroneous and even fallacious report on the so-called expulsion of foreign journalists from Chadian territory. This afternoon therefore, the foreign media misinformed the national and international public opinion, claiming that the Chadian Government decided yesterday to expel foreign journalists who arrived in Chad. To what journalists are they actually referring? It is true that special correspondents of *Le Figaro*, *Le Monde*, and *Agence France-Presse* arrived at the Ndjamena International Airport last night without regular visas, in violation of Chadian immigration law. And why this clandestine journey, as if these special correspondents had something (?in mind)? Obviously, Chad is a country at war. And overt external aggression is currently threatening the survival, the very existence of our country. Each day, defenseless men, women, and children die from the bullets of the Libyan aggressor. And this, while the so-called civilized nations look on unconcerned. Our country is at war, [words indistinct] we have never surrendered and will never surrender, whatever may be the sacrifices made by our valiant people with each passing day. Our country is attacked daily and openly by an expansionist [words indistinct]. Truly speaking, these journalists (?know of) this Chadian situation. (?Blinded) by the sensationalism that they always seek to draw out of crisis situations, they wanted to enter illegally, we are sorry [words indistinct]. These journalists, many of whom have already

visited our country before, know very well that we have never refused anyone entry into our country, not to a single journalist, not even those who do not have our well-being at heart. So, they should not be surprised or behave as if they have been offended. Chad, in spite of the present trial, remains a land of hospitality and tolerance.

Kuwaiti Muslims Present Aid to War Victims
AB301740 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French
1330 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Excerpt] Following the appeal made by the Chadian Government to friendly countries and international organizations, a nongovernmental association called the African Agency for Kuwaiti Muslims has responded to this appeal. A delegation of the agency led by Dr (Yasim Muhammad Mhali) arrived this morning by special flight to present 270 bags of rice and 250 packages of medicine and clothes to the people who escaped the Libyan massacre. [passage omitted]

GABON

Bongo Inaugurates Transgabonese Railway
AB301553 Libreville Africa No 1 in French
1230 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Excerpt] Franceville has had a railway since this morning. President Omar Bongo inaugurated the Transgabonese railway, which is over 600 km long, there this morning. The event, which is politically, economically, and socially significant, coincides with the 51st birthday of the Gabonese president and of the Makuku University of Franceville. Members of government attended this ceremony as well as foreign personalities such as Congolese President Sassou-Nguesso and French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac. [passage omitted]

BURKINA FASO

Bassole Meets Diplomatic Corps, Leaves for Ghana

AB301614 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Our minister of external relations and cooperation, Comrade Leandre Bassole, received members of the diplomatic corps in his office yesterday. The aim of this meeting was to reiterate Burkina Faso's promise to respect the International Court order on the unfortunate border dispute that resulted in war between Mali and our country. After thanking members of the diplomatic corps who accepted his invitation to the meeting in spite of their busy schedules, Comrade Leandre Bassole said that while promising to keep their word, the Burkinabe authorities would ensure that the border will never again serve as a source of tension and even less so a source of conflict between Mali and Burkina Faso. He added that our country will work hard to ensure that this border does not constitute a sort of Berlin wall between the brotherly people of Mali and Burkina Faso. He concluded by wishing the members of the diplomatic corps a happy New Year.

The dean of the diplomatic corps, the Ghanaian ambassador, praised on behalf of his counterparts the maturity and wisdom of the Malian and Burkinabe authorities following the International Court order, and he expressed satisfaction with the sincere determination of both countries to strive to maintain peace. The Ghanaian ambassador concluded by presenting the best wishes of the entire diplomatic corps to Comrade Minister Leandre Bassole.

Appropriate answers were given to various questions put by representatives of the diplomatic corps. After the meeting, the comrade minister of external relations and cooperation led a 50-man delegation to Accra to participate in the 5th anniversary celebrations of the Ghanaian revolution.

GHANA

Libyan Group Arrives for 31 Dec Anniversary

AB301548 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] A high-powered Libyan delegation, led by the secretary of the general people's committee for communication and maritime transport, Mr Mubarak al-Shamikh, arrived in Accra last night to take part in the 31 December anniversary celebration. The 65-man strong team was met on arrival by the attorney general and secretary for justice, Mr G.E.K. Aikins. Speaking to newsmen later, Mr al-Shamikh noted that both the Ghanaian and the Al-Fateh revolutions are identical in their objectives. This is because the leaders of both revolutions are struggling to help emancipate the African from the shackles of colonialism. He said the presence of the delegation in Accra is to show the commitment of Libyans to the goals of the Ghanaian revolution. With the victories being chalked by the two revolutions, Mr al-Shamikh is optimistic that it will not be long for other victories against oppression to be won.

IVORY COAST

Congolese Minister, Houphouet Discuss Cooperation

AB302156 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Excerpts] President Felix Houphouet-Boigny today received an emissary from the Congolese president and current OAU chairman, Denis Sassou-Nguesso. He is Antoine Ndinga-Oba, Congolese minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, who brought a message from President Sassou-Nguesso to President Houphouet-Boigny. The audience took place in the presence of the Defense Minister Jean Konan Banny and Congo's consul in Ivory Coast, Dr Bouboutou Mbemba.

The Congolese foreign minister, who left for Accra, Ghana, this very afternoon did not disclose the contents of the message he brought to the president. We discussed the privileged bonds between our two countries as well as current issues in Africa, particularly problems relating to peace, he said.

[Begin Ndinga-Oba recording] Only about 20 or 25 minutes after my arrival from Brazzaville by a coastal flight, I was received by the president, a meeting that should be regarded by you journalists as symbolic. As for the kind of relations existing between the Congolese president and current OAU chairman and President Houphouet-Boigny, they are excellent and are consistent with the friendship existing between the two leaders and the two peoples. [passage omitted] We discussed the cooperation and friendship existing between the two countries. [passage omitted] President Houphouet-Boginy asked me to convey his advice and suggestions to his younger brother, President Denis Sassou-Nguesso who, with his support, has assumed responsibility for the OAU. [end recording]

MALI

National Assembly Approves 1987 Budget

AB301230 Bamako Domestic Service in French 2015 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Excerpts] The 1987 budget was adopted this morning by the National Assembly. The state budget for 1987, with equal revenues and expenditures, stands at 78.6 billion CFA francs. During a plenary session at the assembly palace at 1000, the deputies also studied three other draft bills of law. [passage omitted]

Minister of Finance and Commerce Mr Dianka Kaba Diakite presented two draft bills to the house: one concerning the creation of the National Budget Directorate and the other concerning the adoption of the 1987 budget. The government as well as the assemblymen agreed on the creation of the National Budget Directorate, which is indispensable for a more efficient management and follow-up of the budget implementation. The draft budget for 1987, which was very important for this session, was the last item on the agenda and was examined in minute detail. While presenting the budget, the minister of finance enumerated five essential characteristics. The budget, which falls under a new administrative, economic, and functional framework

and is worth 78.6 million CFA francs, tends toward a lessening of personnel expenditures, frees the initiatives of businessmen, and, finally, orientates their activities toward a grassroots development.

To better evaluate the budget and weigh its ins and outs, the assemblymen asked numerous questions which reflect their legitimate concerns in the face of the financial problems confronting our budget and their present and future solutions. Hence, questions relating to the financial ties between our country and the IMF, the slump in the sale of cotton and the resulting loss of revenue to the state, the solving of the problem of salaries, the recovery of taxes and duties, savings, and so forth were asked. To all these questions the minister replied that the citizens must impose restrictions on themselves, that they must collaborate to check this situation. He said the party and the government are busy working toward finding workable solutions. Already steps have been taken to allocate capital to the interior of the country and to encourage nationals to invest in fixed enterprises.

There are problems, said the minister, but rigid measures will be taken to get out of the impasse, obviously with the collaboration of everybody, because we are all responsible.

The government is in agreement regarding the problem of salaries, he said, and is doing the best it can to resolve it.

NIGERIA

NNPC To Renegotiate Oil Prices With Customers

AB301836 Lagos Domestic Service in English
1500 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] As from the 1st of February next year, the NNPC [Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation] will apply only official selling prices in its crude oil sales contracts. And from that date, too, the corporation will phase out the net back-valuation system in crude oil transactions. This was announced in Lagos today by the managing director of the corporation, Mr Alex Adamu. He explained that the decision was taken by the Federal Government. He said this is sequel to the agreement reached at the last meeting of OPEC oil ministers in Geneva. The ministers decided at that meeting to cut oil production and set the recent OPEC price at $18 per barrel. In view of this development, the NNPC has asked its customers to renegotiate their existing contracts in order to substitute fixed prices for the net back prices.

Nigeria's bonny light crude will sell for $18.92 per barrel with effect from the 1st of February next year.

SIERRA LEONE

Accra Reports Momoh Releases Coup Plotters

AB310855 Accra Domestic Service in English
2100 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] President Joseph Momoh of Sierra Leone has ordered the release from jail of nine people serving life sentences for plotting against the government of his predecessor, Mr Siaka Stevens, in 1974. President Momoh also ordered the release of 18 prisoners serving terms of up to 15 years for offences including manslaughter and robbery.

In April 1974, a bomb exploded in the home of Sierra Leone's finance minister. Eight people, including ministers Mohammed Forna and Ibrahim Bash-Taqi, were hanged for treason and others were jailed. They planned to kill President Stevens and senior government ministers.

President Momoh, who at the time was the head of the armed forces, replaced Stevens in a peaceful handover in November last year.

ANGOLA

FAPLA Notes December Actions Against UNITA

MB310635 Dakar PANA in French 1715 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Lubango, Angola 30 Dec (ANGOP-PANA) — The Angolan Armed Forces, FAPLA, killed 137 UNITA bandits, captured 16 others, and released 345 civilians from the bandits' yoke during military operations in Huila, Namibe, and Cunene Provinces in December. According to Major Jonatao Augusto Moreira, general staff chief of the 5th political-military region, speaking to *O Jornal de Angola*, the FAPLA combatants captured 38 cartridges for light weapons, 52 81-mm mortar shells, 1 60-mm mortar, 41 light weapons, 5 hand grenades, 1 antipersonnel mine, 24 60-mm grenades, and 1 pistol.

During the same period, he said, more than 630 huts used by the counterrevolutionaries as shelters were destroyed and 220 head of cattle were retrieved. Major Jonatao Moreira noted that the counterrevolutionaries' actions are characterized by killing defenseless people, stealing their goods, and destroying their houses.

He pointed out that, after heavy losses inflicted on UNITA bandits by FAPLA combatants, logistic and material support from Pretoria for the puppets has increased. He added that combined South African troops and their Angolan lackeys are still in the regions of Chivemba, Mupa, and Evale in Cunene province. He also said that on 19 December a Mercedes Benz military truck belonging to the counterrevolutionaries and a quantity of war materiel were seized in Chivemba in Cunene Province.

137 UNITA Reported Killed

AU310753 Paris AFP in English 0749 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] Lisbon, Dec 31 (AFP) — Angolan Government forces killed 137 rebels of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) in search operations in three southern provinces in December, the official ANGOP news agency reported, monitored here.

The dispatch, quoting military authorities, said government forces had freed 345 civilians living under UNITA control and destroyed 630 rebel hideouts.

The operations covered the provinces of Huila, Cunene and Namibe, the agency said.

ANGOP added that Pretoria had recently stepped up military assistance to UNITA, and joint UNITA-South African forces were still deployed in the Chivemba, Mupa and Evale districts of Cunene province.

BOTSWANA

Train Service To Continue Under Zimbabwe Railways

MB301227 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1110 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] The Ministry of Works, Transport, and Communications has said that owing to unforseen circumstances involving high-level consultations between the Governments of Botswana and Zimbabwe on 22 December 1986, it has been decided by the two governments that train services in Botswana will, until further notice, continue to be part of the National Railways of Zimbabwe. In a statement today, the ministry said, however, in order to decentralize the trian control system, Botswana, which has hitherto been part of the southern area, with area headquaters in Bulawayo, is now a separate area with its area headquaters in Gaborone. This has led to the setting up of a (?train) control office in Gaborone. [words indistinct] which will have to be changed to take account of the traffic flow within Botswana. Botswana was due to take over a section of the railways passing through it from Zimbabwe on 1 January.

LESOTHO

Detainees Reportedly Released by Authorities

MB310808 Mbabane Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] Political sources in Maseru have said six people detained by Lesotho's military rulers last week have been freed. They told REUTER the six comprise the country's former ambassador to China, Mr Chaka Ntsane, and five youth followers of former Premier Chief Leabua Jonathan, who was toppled in a bloodless coup by right-wing military officers last january. Mr Ntsane, a former head of the civil service, was appointed to a diplomatic post last February but recalled and then sacked 6 weeks ago. He is a son-in-law of Jonathan. They added that Jonathan's five supporters had apparently been found with communications equipment which was authorized for use only by the country's armed forces.

MOZAMBIQUE

Chissano Says Difficulties Expected in 1987

MB301858 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1730 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Speech by President Joaquim Chissano at an end of year function held in Maputo on 30 December — recorded]

[Text] According to tradition we are gathered here to mark the end of the year and the beginning of yet another one. For the first time President Samora Moises Machel is not physically present with us. His death in the year that is about to end is an unprecedented tragedy to the Mozambican nation and an irreparable personal loss to each of us.

Despite that enormous loss and the escalation of external aggression against Mozambique in 1986, our country achieved important victories in political and diplomatic fields. Undoubtedly, the most important of these victories was the great success of the second general elections, which represented the culmination of the process of strengthening national unity and deepening people's democracy in our country.

The year about to begin seems to promise difficulties. It will be yet another year of war and economic hardships. It is, however, a year that promises hope and certainty. It will be a year in which we will actively intensify the struggle to eliminate armed banditry. It will be a year in which we will adopt rather harsh but necessary economic measures. These will create the conditions to rehabilitate our economy and build a better future for our people. The secret for success on these two important fronts depends mainly on the involvement and personal dedication of all of us here, as leaders and cadres of the party, state, and grass root organizations. It depends on our ability to unite, organize, and mobilize the people around the great goals that have been outlined. We say that 1987 will be a year of certainty because we are certain of your involvement and determination and of the enormous creative energy of our people.

We have reasons to be certain of future success. The past 2 months have proved that we can move forward. We have the ability to mobilize and to remain united. We have the ability to compensate for the losses we have sustained. That is why we say that we have trust and are optimists.

We wish you all and your families the continuation of a good festive season and a prosperous and happy new year.

Successes Against 'Bandits' Summarized

MB310751 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
0400 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] Our forces killed 457 bandits and captured another 11 in operations carried out in Maputo province over the last 8 months. A communique from the provincial military command issued today also notes that a number of bandits were wounded in the operations. Also captured were over 50 automatic weapons, including 3 60-mm mortars, a large quantity of ammunition, and war materiel. The communique also adds that 30 people who had been kidnapped by the bandits were freed, stressing that the operations continue in different parts of the province to locate, track down, and capture small and isolated groups that have turned into roving bands without command.

120 Reported Killed in Nov

MB302015 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1730 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] The Mozambique Armed Forces-FPLM killed 120 armed bandits in Ulongue, headquarters of Angonia District in Tete Province, when a large bandit group led by mercenaries attacked the town in November. One of the three mercenaries killed was hit by shrapnel from a B-11 recoilless gun fired by an FPLM unit protecting Ulongue. According to the Angonia district commissioner, who was quoted by AIM, the bandits and mercenaries intended to occupy the town, from where they would carry out new destabilising actions. During the raid, the armed bandits managed to destroy a number of installations, including the executive council building. They also plundered medicines from the local hospital.

Manica Residents Need Emergency Food Aid

MB291350 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese
1030 GMT 29 Dec 86

[Text] More than 250,000 residents of Manica Province, most of whom have been released from the captivity of the armed bandits or repatriated from the Republic of Zimbabwe, need emergency food aid. This was disclosed to our correspondent in that province by the delegate of the Department of Prevention and Combat Against Natural Disasters. The source added that the northen districts of Guro and Barue, where more than 700 peasants had been released from the captivity of armed bandits, need emergency aid in the form of food, clothing, and tools.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO Claims South African Helicopter Downed

MB310927 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese
0500 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] The combatants of the People's Liberation Army of Namibia, armed wing of SWAPO, shot down an helicopter of the South African forces in the region of Ondangua in Namibia. A SWAPO communique issued in Luanda yesterday stated that the helicopter's crew died and the helicopter was destroyed [words indistinct]. The helicopter was shot down while it was trying to leave [words indistinct] during a skirmish between South African troops and SWAPO combatants. The communique from the South-West Africa People's Organization, SWAPO, concludes by saying that with this helicopter, it has raised to seven the number of South African aircraft downed this year by SWAPO.

SOUTH AFRICA

Journalists Groups, PFP Condemn Ngcobo Detention

MB30. 533 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1522 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Dec 30 SAPA — The detention of *Business Day* reporter Sipho Ngcobo has been condemned by the International Federation of Journalists [IFJ], the Media Workers Association of South Africa [MWASA] and the Progressive Federal Party.,

Ngcobo was arrested at work yesterday.

An IFJ executive member, Mr Thami Mazwai, said the fact that Ngcobo was arrested "right in the newsroon, while he was doing

his job, portrays the extent to which there is no press freedom in this country."

"This shows the absolute power the police have over the black community.

"The IFJ is shocked at this and will do all in its power to ensure that Ngcobo is either released or charged."

A spokesman for MWASA, of which Ngcobo is a member, also condemned the detention, saying the country was sinking "deeper and deeper into totalitarianism."

The PFP MP for Gardens, Mr Ken Andrew, said: "The detention without trial of anybody is to be deplored. The detention of a journalist is cause for particular alarm.

"There is every indication that the government is determined to manipulate information and to prevent the public from knowing what is going on in South Africa."

SASJ Demands Release

MB301513 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1508 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Dec 30, SAPA — The detention of *Business Day* reporter Sipho Ngcobo was likely to have a profound effect on journalists in South Africa, the president of the SA Society of Journalists [SASJ], Pat Sidley, said today.

This effect would perhaps be more severe than any of the emergency restrictions, she said in statement released here.

"We can only believe his detention is linked to his work as a journalist and that this is the way in which journalists are likely to be dealt with increasingly in this country," the statement said.

"We do not accept any reason for the detention without trial of anybody and see it as more dangerous when the public is deprived of one of its links through the media to what is going on around them.

"We call for his immediate release."

Police Name SADF Officer Accused of Spying

MB301014 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1000 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Police have released the name of a high-ranking SADF officer who is said to have been detained on charges of spying. They say Major Andre Pienaar is being held in terms of Section 29 of the Internal Security Act. He is thought to have been attached to military intelligence.

Buthelezi: Government Offers No Political Hope

MB301421 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1419 GMT 30 Dec 86

[SAPA PR Wire Service; issued by the chief minister's office, Ulundi]

[Text] Ulundi, Tuesday — Unrest in the black townships could not be stilled by any action which the government could take within its present framework of stated aims and objectives, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi said here today.

He told the new United States ambassador to South Africa, Mr Edward Perkins, who was here on a courtesy visit, that there was no administrative remedy to the unrest.

The trouble was fuelled by economic as well as political forces, the KwaZulu chief minister and Inkatha president said.

There was nothing in what the government now said which offered political hope and there was nothing on the economic horizons which promised relief from poverty.

This lack of hope had reached the point where unrest had become a way of life in many black townships. There was even a black sense of excitement — or a hankering after such excitement.

"The pendulum will swing backwards and forwards across the present thresholds of violence, increasing at times and decreasing at others, without anything happening on the threshold itself."

While black politics remained crippled by the lack of basic political freedoms and while leaders like Mr Nelson Mandela and Mr Zeph Mothopeng and other political prisoners remained incarcerated, consensus politics would not evolve.

Chief Buthelezi told Mr Perkins he was pleased that the united States had appointed a black person to the "very difficult task" of ambassador to South Africa.

In a memorandum for their meeting he said that he was not one of those who saw the appointment as a cynical example of tokenism. He saw Mr Perkins's blackness as a distinct asset.

"You are a living symbol of black equality in a multiracial society, and symbolism is important in politics," chief Buthelezi said.

"The symbolism of which I am speaking is just as important in white society as in black society. Let the white man now deal with a black man in the interface between South Africa and the United States. There is an idiom in that dealing which could pay very real dividends.

"Even if we both know that your colour does not shade your humanity and that it does not imbue you with powers or weaknesses, you as a black American in our circumstances will have a diplomatic utility which could well become the envy of your white colleagues."

UDF Issues New Year's Message on Apartheid

MB301634 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1631 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Dec 30 SAPA — The United Democratic Front resolved to intensify its "struggle against apartheid and exploitation" in 1987, the organisation's new year message said today.

"Two states of emergencies and our being declared an affected organisation have thus failed in laying the UDF to rest," the UDF said in a statement in Johannesburg signed by Mr Murphy Morobe, the oraganisation's acting publicity secretary.

It said banning the UDF would not solve the government's problems.

"The UDF is still commited to waging a non-violent struggle against apartheid even as the state seems bent on closing every available legal space.

"In 1987 we expect to see the state trying to stop the UDF through detentions, resctrictions and wholesale harassment."

The UDF said: "With all prospects for 1987 indicating a sharpening edge of resistance and increased repression we in the UDF still abound with optimism about the future of this country.

"The roots of this optimism will certainly grow deeper with the inevitable intensification of the struggle in 1987."

"The new year brings with it an even greater urgency for deeper unity for all peace loving and democractic South Africans."

The UDF would ask workers to join COSATU (Congress of South African Trade Unions).

The UDF supported the call for pupils to return to school and the reopening of schools.

The UDF said white compatriots should abandon apartheid and join "the advancing forces of peace and progress."

"Without their support apartheid cannot continue."

Those sections of the church that were "apologists for racism" were called on to resolve to make 1987 a year in which they were true to the teachings of their faith.

The UDF called on the youth to put their energies into the South African youth congress.

Women should commit themselves to a strong and united federation of South African women, the UDF said.

The business community failed to unequivocaly condemn the state of emergency, the UDF said.

"This places you firmly inside the laager."

The UDF described the imposition of curbs on the media as one of the most desperate acts by the government.

The UDF expected 1987 "to usher in an era of even greater collaboration between the state president (Mr P.W. Botha) and the military."

If 1986 was anyting to go by, the UDF expected greater efforts against it and all "progressive organisations" in 1987.

1986 saw the deaths of leading UDF members and community leaders like Chief Ampie Mayisa of Leandra, the UDF said.

The year saw the detention of thousands of UDF officials and members of its affilistes.

"It has even shown the lowest level apartheid — through the incarceration of hundreds of children — can sink (to)."

UDF Commends Commitment During Campaign

MB301607 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1606 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Dec 30 SAPA — The United Democratic Front commended affiliates today for their commitment to the 10-day period of concern for children in detention and "re-dedication to the struggle against apartheid".

The outcome of the campaign would ensure the UDF started the new year "with confidence and heightened resolve to engage in other campaigns against the system of apartheid," Mr Murphy Morobe, the organisation's acting publicity secretary, said.

There were state attempts to intimidate people and deliberately sow confusion about the 10-day campaign, he alled.

The failed attempts included fake leaflets calling on people not to switch off their lights, the UDF said.

The UDF commended the political discipline shown by thousands of its activists.

Commentary Justifies Need for School Regulations

MB310533 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Station commentary]

[Text] People are fed up with the interminable obstructionism of the radical element that has been trying to turn school grounds into arenas of political confrontation through intimidation and violence. This week the *Sowetan* published the results of a street survey in which black parents unanimously demanded a return to normal schooling for their children.

Nobody still believes the stale complaint that the schools unrest is due to the educational authorities neglecting to rectify grievances. In no sector of South African society has more been done in the past two years to identify and resolve through

negotiation the problems that existed in black education. The educational authorities have leaned over backwards to be accommodating, making allowances for unruly behaviour and inviting even the most extreme groups to contribute towards the initiative — for the sake of their children. Where talks have brought to light real problems, corrective action has been taken.

At the same time the program to upgrade the quality of black education has continued, notwithstanding the destructive efforts of the political radicals. More schools have been built, courses for improving teachers' qualifications have been expanded, the provision of books and equipment has been increased. Evidence of the progress is to be seen in the matriculation pass rate for this year. At 52 percent, the pass rate was three percentage points higher than last year's — in spite of the school year having begun late, extended stayaways and intensified efforts by outsiders to replace normal classes with lectures in so-called people's education. Obviously the pass rate would have been even higher had pupils been allowed to devote the full year to their studies and not had to contend with such disruption.

It has become perfectly clear that there is a hard core of people, adults and older teenagers, who, having involved themselves in black education, have not the slightest interest in resolving difficulties and making progress. Their objective is the opposite: to create confrontation and as far as possible incite black youngsters to form a hooligan arm of their revolutionary campaign. The puerile slogan they have coined — Liberation before education — illustrates both their exploitation of youthful naivete and their lack of concern for the real long-term interests of the children.

The past two years have shown that it is futile to try to reason with that politically activist group. The time has come to remove it from the educational milieu — to give the children the opportunity to study which they deserve and without which they cannot hope to achieve their ambitions in life. The children are anxious to be given the opportunity, their parents are demanding it and the educational authorities are determined that they shall have it.

SPCC's Motlana Discusses Back-to-School Call

MB301657 London BBC World Service in English 1515 GMT 30 Dec 86

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Peharps surprisingly, black antiapartheid groups in South Africa are now urging students to go back to school after years of sporadic boycotts and demonstrations. It's surprising because yesterday the government announced new powers to control school syllabuses, to ban pupils, and control their movements. The UDF, the National Education Crisis Committee, NECC, which has apparently gone underground, and the Soweto Parents Crisis Committee, SPCC, are nevertheless telling the kids to get back into the classrooms. On the line to Soweto, Julian Borja asked Dr Motlana of the SPCC why.

[Begin recording] [Motlana] It was never the intention that children should stay out of school forever. The aim was to pressurize the department, the government into instituting certain fundamental changes. We know we have not succeeded in achieving this, but an additional reason for staying away in 1986 was to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the students uprising of 1976. And having achieved this there is a general feeling that the children should go back to school.

[Borja] But, from the point of view of putting pressure on the department of education, it has obviously been a failure. In fact, the Department of Education has put even more restrictions on education in the townships.

[Motlana] That is true. The department is behaving incredibly stupidly. We believe that these late restrictions are very provocative and may in fact lead to even more boycotts.

[Borja] Do you think if you issue a call now for the students to go back to school, they are going to listen to you?

[Motlana] Well, unlike very many organizations in South Africa that simply issued blanket calls for the students to go back to school, we in the Soweto Parents Crisis Committee have had joint meetings with the local students organizations. Our statement on Monday was issued in conjuction with the students. We have no doubt at all that it is the feeling among the students themselves that they should go back to school. We believe, therefore, that in fact they will go back. Our only fear is that if the government persists with some of these stupid restrictions, they may not stay there very long.

[Borja] It has been very hard to get hold of members of the National Education Crisis Committee, NECC. Does that mean that the NECC has gone underground?

[Motlana] Many of them are in fact in detention. I do believe that the remaining members — and I'm not sure who remains outside at this moment — that they probably have gone underground. But as an organization the NECC has ceased to exist, but that doesn't mean that it has ceased to do its work because I do believe some of them are still outside. But I mean if you go to their offices in Johannesburg, their offices are shut. [end recording]

PAC Condemns Tightening of State of Emergency

MB301727 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] The PAC of South Africa has condemned the recent tightening of the state of emergency by the Pretoria regime. The PAC secretary for publicity and information, Comrade Edwin Makhosi, told the ZBC that the racist Pretoria regime wants to create a [words indistinct] kind of education [words indistinct] and another for blacks and coloreds. Comrade Makhosi said the apartheid regime has failed to control the situation in South Africa despite its harsh legislation and use of sophisticated weapons against the black majority. He said the racists' clampdown on the media and education will not weaken the revolutionary spirit of black people in South Africa.

Regulations Having 'Profound Effect' on Unions
MB301717 Johannesburg THE STAR in English 30 Dec 86 p 9

[By Sheryl Raine]

[Text] The new emergency regulations are already having a profound effect on the union movement and could become the main issue of industrial conflict next year, says the independent Labour Monitoring Group (LMG).

In its last report for 1986 on the impact of the state of emergency on industrial relations, the LMG noted mounting pressure against the labour movement over the Christmas period.

Pressure included the new emergency regulations, increased detentions of unionists, vigilante attacks against the Metal and Allied Workers' Union (MAWU) in Natal, as well as attempted deportations of top union officials of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) and the Chemical Workers' Industrial Union (CWIU).

The combination of these actions amounted to a new phase of pressure on the union movement under the emrgency and, if the pressures continued, they were likely to become the main issues of industrial conflict early next year.

The LMG said although the new regulations had been aimed mainly at the alternative media, community organisations, the End Conscription Campaign and the Christmas Against the Emergency Campaign, the union movement had also been affected.

The redefinition of "subversive statements" in the regulations included a ban on calling for illegal strikes or consumer boycotts. This had already affected union activities, said the LMG.

"The Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers union reports that it has been unable to call for a consumer boycott during the current legal wage strike by its members at nearly all OK Bazaars stores across the country.

"The Council of Unions of SA says its affiliate, the Transport and Allied Workers' Union, has been unable to call for a boycott of PUTCO [Public Utility Transport Corporation] buses during a dispute with the company over retrenchments.

"Although nearly all strikes in South Africa are technically illegal, the possibility of strike action has become a regular part of the repertoire of union organisers and shop stewards during industrial bargaining.

"Unions point out that such talk, even if made in a company boardroom, could open officials to charges of 'subversion' and the NUM has already begun briefing its officials and shaft stewards on the language they can use during negotiations. Other unions expect the regulations to pose major problems when they resume work in the new year."

Lawyers for one union have been quick to point out that the regulations clash with the provisions of the new labor regulation bill which allows for primary boycotts during an industrial dispute.

The LMG also criticised employer bodies for failing to speak out against the latest emergency regulations imposed on December 12.

Except for employer representations to the Minister of Home Affairs about the deportation of unionists, the LMG was not aware of any major statement by employer bodies criticising the new emergency regulations or other action taken recently against trade unions.

This was in contrast to the beginning of the emergency (on June 12) when some employer bodies and major industrialists made a number of statements pointing to the damaging effects of the emergency on industrial stability.

"Representatives of the retail industry were the most outspoken at the time. OK Bazaars has now been noticeably silent on the detention of shop stewards during the current legal strike.

"It would appear that the limited opposition by management to the emergency has now given way to complacency or even acceptance of it."

Because of various difficulties, figures of unionists in detention contained in the report could be higher than reflected.

The LMG said 45 unionists were known to have been detained under emergency and security regulations in the last four weeks.

At least 614 unionists had been held since the start of the emergency. At least 2,000 workers were held in mass detentions during various disputes. About 256 unionists had been released from detention but 358 were still being held.

The LMG expressed concern about vigilante attacks early in December on Mawu members and their relatives at Mpophomeni near Howick in Natal. Four people were killed.

The attempted deportation of four unionists and a professor of history and specialist in the labor field, Professor Philip Bonner, was another pressure exerted on the labour movement.

Although two NUM officials and Professor Bonner had their deportation orders withdrawn, the minister of Home Affairs has warned he may reimpose them after hearing representations.

Mrs Chris Bonner, Trnasvaal secretary of the CWIU, for whom a deportation order was filled out but never served, is still in a precarious position. Representations are being sent to the Minister on her behalf.

49 Percent of Blacks Believe 1987 Will Be Worse
MB301416 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1407 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Johannesburg, Dec 29, SAPA — Only 18 per cent of blacks expect 1987 to be better than the past year, compared with

41 per cent of whites.

This emerges from the findings of the latest Markinor Gallup poll, conducted by Markinor among 1,000 whites and 800 black urban adults.

The study is part of an international year-end poll in more than 35 countries by gallup international.

The report says: "Blacks are understandably gloomy, with 49 per cent believing that conditions will deteriorate, 18 per cent that they will stay the same and 18 per cent that they will improve."

Some 19 per cent of whites think conditions will remain as they are, 30 per cent think things will get worse and 10 per cent say they don't know.

Both blacks and whites are "slightly more confident of prospects for next year than they were 12 months ago," says the report. This is "despite the country's severe socio-political and economic problems.

"At the end of 1985, 40 per cent of whites and 53 per cent of blacks expected conditions to get worse."

1,068 Emigrate in October While 628 Immigrate

MB301934 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1915 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] Figures released by the Central Statistical Services in Pretoria show that 1,068 people left South Africa during October this year. By comparison only 628 people settled in the country during this period. During the first 10 months of the year, almost 6,000 people settled in South Africa while almost 12,000 left the country.

PUTCO Considering Further Cutbacks in Soweto

MB310645 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0620 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 31 SAPA — PUTCO [Public Utility Transport Corporation] would consider further retrenchments if the boycott of buses in Soweto continued in the new year, a company spokesman, Mr Pat Rogers, said yesterday.

He also confirmed that a bus was set alight and several others damaged at the Baragwanath terminus in Soweto on Monday evening.

Mr Rogers said that only the Soweto operation was affected by the boycott and if it continued, "we will look at the possibility of further retrenchments." "As a result of the boycott we are monitoring the passenger demand. By about January 24, we will have to make hard decisions about whether passenger demand has increased and act accordingly." Many PUTCO workers were retrenched about a month ago when the boycott came into effect as a result of a 17 per cent increase in fares.

Mr Rogers said the boycott had meant additional travelling costs for many Soweto communters, "some of whom still make use of other PUTCO services on the outskirts of Johannesburg to reach their final destination." Commuters were paying substantially more to get to and from work because they had been forced ot use two or three different modes of transport. He said the company had recently reduced its bus service considerably in several areas because of lack of demand for transport over the festive season. "Factories and schools have closed and the demand in Soweto is pushed down further by the boycott. We are looking at increasing the number of buses if we see the demand growing.

"Because the service has been reduced so considerably, we also see a possibility of problems with the transporting of scholars should there be a full turnout when the schools open on January 7. Scholars are an uneconomical operation as their fares are considerably below the economic fare tariff. We lose R16 million a year carrying scholars. We have been having negotiations with the government for three years to obtain a subsidy. But we have been unable to get it. So we will be unable to put on special buse to carry them at a loss in 1987," he said. He said in a statement that the company carried 20 million scholars a year.

No Need Forseen For Wheat Imports Next Year

MB301301 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] The latest wheat crop estimate of 2.134 million tons indicates that South Africa will not have to import any wheat in the new year. The assistant general manager of the wheat board, Mr (Andries Lidenberg) says he does not foresee the necessity for wheat imports at this stage. However, the final crop figure will be available only at the end of February when harvesting has been completed. South Africa's domestic wheat consumption at this stage is about 2.1 million tons a year. Although the present estimate does not indicate a record crop, it is considerably more than the previous crop of 1.68 million tons. This year about 300,000 tons of wheat had to be imported to meet demand.

Mr (Lidenberg) said that according to the latest estimate, the wheat crop in the Free State had nearly doubled from 446,000 tons to 990,000 tons. Natal's estimated crop of 40,000 tons was also higher than the previous 31,000, bu' the Transvaal crop estimate of 165,000 tons is lower than the previous crop of 240,000 tons. The Cape's estimated crop of 39,000 tons is also lower than the previous crop of 963,000 tons. [numbers as heard]

The gross producer price for wheat in the current season announced recently by the minister of agriculture, Mr Greyling Wentzel, is 375 rand a ton for class A1 wheat. This is 50 rand more than the previous price from which 15 rand a ton would come from the wheat board stabilization fund.

Commentary Views Status of Angola Conflict

MB301146 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Station commentary: "Angola: Its Self-Inflicted problems"]

[Text] Such is the level of ignorance in the West about what is really happening in southern Africa that Angola's foreign minister, Mr Afonso Van-Dunem, can get away with ridiculous claims instead of being laughed out of town. He said in a radio interview in Lisbon that UNITA was not in control in any part of Angola and that Angola still needed help from abroad because of the threat from South Africa. Anyone knowing anything about Angola's history since independence 11 years ago will know that both these claims are totally false.

UNITA, in fact, controls more than a third of the country and is active in most of it. It is UNITA, not South Africa, that poses a threat to the MPLA government in Luanda. It should be remembered that the MPLA seized power in Angola in violation of an agreement to form a government of national unity with UNITA and the FNLA [Angolan National Liberation Front] pending general elections. These elections have never been held and the only reason the MPLA is in power in that it is being propped up by a massive force of Cuban troops and Soviet advisers and weapons. This foreign aid is necessary to protect the MPLA government from UNITA, not South Africa.

South Africa has admitted giving certain humanitarian and material aid to UNITA because South-West Africa/Namibia would be the next target if the Soviet Union and its Cuban surrogate force ever succeed in totally subjugating Angola. South Africa's involvement in the Angolan situation stems from the fact that southern Angola is the base from which SWAPO terrorists launch their attacks on South-West Africa/Namibia. While this persists there can be no question of free and fair elections being held in South-West Africa/Namibia leading to independence for the territory. In addition to subjugating the people of Angola, the Soviet and Cuban forces are also aiding SWAPO terrorists in their bid to install a Marxist government in Windhoek. South Africa cannot stand idly by and allow this to happen.

It is not only in South Africa's interests that Soviet plans for the region be thwarted; it is in the interests of the entire subcontinent. It must be clearly seen that the Soviet Union is the destabilizing force in southern Africa. No amount of lies and disinformation can be allowed to cloud this issue.

Information Bureau Issues 30 Dec Unrest Report

MB310726 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0724 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] Pretoria Dec 31 SAPA — Following is the Bureau for Information's daily unrest report:

"Unrest report 00h01 to 24h00 (30 December)

"Isolated incidents of stoning and malicious damage to property were the only unrest-related incidents reported during the abovementioned 24-hour period.

"Only 3 police-districts were affected and little damage was caused.

"The Bureau for Information duty officer from Friday 2 January to Thursday 8 January will be Adriana Andersen. After hours telephone number 83-4007 or radio call 28-4800 code 126/1.

"The Bureau for Information wishes all a happy and prosperous new year."

Press Comments on Current Issues, Problems

MB310506 [Editorial report]

CITIZEN: Police 'Unsung Heroes'

The members of the South African police are "the unsung heroes of the fight against the revolutionaries," Johannesburg *The Citizen* in English on 30 December says in an editorial on page 6. They are "reviled by the radicals and those who support them, yet the shield behind which we can all sleep safely." "Sadly, the fact that such men may lose their lives at the hands of ANC terrorists does not shock those who prefer to talk to the ANC rather than oppose them." At this time of year, all policemen should be remembered with gratitude, including "the Black policemen who, despite losing their homes and possessions in fires set by radicals, remain dedicated to the force."

CITIZEN on Australian, Canadian Visa Policies

Commenting on obstacles imposed by the Australian and Canadian Governments on South Africans seeking visas to visit those countries in a second editorial on the same page, *The Citizen* notes that "good or bad, pro-apartheid or anti-apartheid, all will suffer." "What does our government intend to do about Australians and Canadians who want to visit South Africa? Impose similar restraints or turn the other cheek?"

STAR on New School Regulations

Although the Department of Education and Training "is obviously unhappy with the boycotts and disruptions which plagued many schools all year," "for the authorities to resort to a state of emergency specifically for the classroom indicates a desperation and lack of understanding that could hamper, not promote, the department's objective," Johannesburg *The Star* in English on 30 December says in a page 8 editorial. However, "first reaction from some influential black organisations" to the new measures "has been positive: attacking the new regulations, they have nevertheless repeated their calls for a return to school." "Despite the big stick being waved so damagingly by cold authority, all black people concerned about their children and the future should join the back-to-school campaign."

BUSINESS DAY on 'Victims of Disinvestment'

Some U.S. companies decided to disinvest after "the failure of the SA government to give them meaningful reforms with which to justify their presence here," Johannesburg *Business Day* in English says in an editorial on page 4. "For others, the crunch came when new investments were banned with effect from the middle of last month. Now still more will decide to leave rather than become entangled in endless bureaucratic regulations governing what is and is not investment, repair or expansion of their

SA subsidiaries." With the new U.S. legislation on doing business in South Africa, "the U.S. firms concerned will certainly lose. SA as a whole will lose, but not the apartheid rulers at whom all of this is supposedly aimed. The economy as a whole will suffer, and with it employment levels in general and the jobs of those formerly employed at U.S. firms in particular. To the victims of apartheid the U.S. — not SA — is no deliberately adding the victims of disinvestment. the difference is not as great as Congress may suppose."

CAPE TIMES on Beach Conflict

"In spite of the huge crowds on Peninsula beaches over the Christmas weekend, racial mixing took place in a remarkable atmosphere of amity and tolerance," Cape Town *Cape Times* in English on 29 December says in a page 8 editorial. "Unfortunately the Cape experience has not been repeated at all coastal cities. On the Natal coast, particularly at Amanzimtoti, violence broke out among white and black bathers. But according to reports, the whites involved were members of the racist Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging [Afrikaner Resistance Movement] who appeared to go out of their way to seek confrontation with black bathers. One thing is sure in South Africa: if you look for racial confrontation you will find it. A tiny minority of people can spoil it for the peace-loving and law-abiding majority. The appropriate response of the authorities is clear. They must not try to appease the bigots by reimposing segregation, but crack down instead with the utmost vigour on any form of violence or anti-social behaviour, regardless of the race of the culprits."

SOWETAN Condemns School Regulations

"While we do, in our most charitable moments, believe that the Government is as anxious as all of us to see black education revert to normality," the new emergency regulations imposed on black schools are "a monumental blunder," Johannesburg *Sowetan* in English on 30 December says in its front-page editorial. "We urge the Government strongly to consider scrapping it before school term." "We are almost certain that these regulations will provoke what we fear most, a repetition of what has been going on in black schooling since 1976. We cannot let that happen without saying something despite the face that we are severely restricted from speaking our minds more plainly."

'Focus' on Reality of Apartheid

In the "Focus" column on page 4, *Sowetan* writer Mathatha Tsedu recounts his experiences over the Christmas holidays which showed that "apartheid is alive and well in this country." In one incident, he and his family were prevented from swimming at the side of a Transvaal dam used by whites, while in a second incident he and his family were not allowed to use the showers after visiting an unsegregated Natal Beach. "The two incidents made apartheid concrete for our children. They now understand precisely what the struggle for liberation is all about. After each incident we had to explain as best we could what had happened. So in a way, the two incidents, both white-designed, have conscientised our families even more. They move our families' understanding of the struggle in South Africa from the theoretical to the practical."

TRANSVALER: Delicate Racial Balance

Pretoria *Die Transvaler* in Afrikaans on 29 December says in an editorial on page 12 that "how senstive the balance that assures good relations between groups really is is shown by how easily violence between groups can flare up to disturb that equilibrium." Following the disturbances on Natal beaches, it notes there will be voices that will regard the violence this Christmas as a reason to keep the races apart. "We must accept that the various groups within South Africa must live, work, and play together." To make this possible there should be greater understanding of one another and more patience in handling cultural differences.

VADERLAND: Frontline Sanctions Wavering

Johannesburg *Die Vaderland* in Afrikaans on 29 December, in a page 14 editorial, remarks that the "tragic event in which two SAP officers were killed in a terrorist follow-up operation casts a darker cloud on the Southern African situation." The latest event happened against the background of sanctions that the Frontline States want to impose on South Africa at the end of the year. Hesitation about their scope is apparent ever since Zambian food riots over maize price increases. "Sensible leadership on the part of the Frontline States is imperative at present."

U.S. Economic, Political Prospects Not Good

Johannesburg *Die Vaderland* in Afrikaans on 30 December says in an editorial on page 10 that "prospects for 1987 for the United States are not rosy." On the political front the Democrats dominate both houses of Congress, and the possibility of effective administration is scant. "Indications are that they will hinder the President in many policy decisions." The Iran arms scandal affects both the Republicans' chances in the presidential elections and America's image abroad. Many see the attempt to restore relations with Iran as a lame effort to salvage something from the debacle with the shar of Iran. "It is perhaps on the economic front that the threat is greatest." Chrysler Corporation's Mr Lee Iacocca refers to the astronomical budget deficit and the extent to which other nations are entering the world markets.

BEELD Experts Fresh Goals

Johannesburg *Beeld* in Afrikaans on 30 December says in a page 10 editorial that "to set demands and expectations for the new year can be a test of good leadership." If South Africans want to enter 1987 with balanced demands and expectations then there is hope. "We find such balance in Chief Buthelezi's message." Calling for hope, he says: "Hope is necessary and black politics aimed at suppressing hope and encouraging violent confrontation must be condemned." Indeed, so too should white politics which encourages conflict be condemned. In 1986, the world condemned white South Africans as if they are supppressors and racists. To deal lightly with the faults of one group and mercilessly with those of another is to make other parties afraid to negotiate. concluding, it notes: "from our side we shall do everything possible in 1987 to promote reform and keep whites away from the path to confrontation, but we expect the same from black leaders. We hope that the Tutu's, the UDF leaders, and others understand."

ZIMBABWE

Reportage on Mugabe-Kaunda 30 Dec Talks

Delegations Arrive, Talks Begin

MB301232 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, arrived in Kariba this morning for talks with the Zambian president, Dr Kenneth Kaunda. Comrade Mugabe is accompanied by the minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Witness Mangwende; the minister of state responsible for security, Comrade Emmerson Munagagwa; the minister of trade and commerce, Comrade Oliver Munyaradzi; and the minister of transport, Comrade Herbert Ushewokunze. Dr Kaunda is accompanied by Zambian prime minister, Mr Kebby Musokotwane, and the minister of commerce and industry, Mr Kalaluka.

The two leaders are reviewing developments between the two countries and within the southern african region. Speaking during the opening session of the meeting, President Kaunda said Zimbabwe and Zambia are holding the discussions from a position of (?strength), since the two countries are (?held) together by a strong history and common cause. The meeting is a followup to last week's meeting of leaders of the Frontline States held in the Zambian capital, Lusaka.

Talks Conclude

MB301632 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, and the Zambian president, Dr Kenneth Kaunda, have ended their 1-day meeting in Kariba. The two leaders [words indistinct] on the existing economic relations between their two countries. In a joint communique read to newsmen by the minister of foreign affairs, Comrade Witness Mangwende, the two leaders said they would want to see stringent [words indistinct] in lessening their independence on South Africa. One aspect of [words indistinct] in the field of transport. Both leaders condemned the Pretoria regime for imposing sanctions against its neighbors. They also called on the Botha regime to dismantle the evil policy of apartheid and the notorious state of emergency, as well as lifting the press ban.

The two leaders reaffirmed their call for comprehensive mandatory sanctions against South Africa and commended multinational companies which have pulled out of that country. They also expressed outrage at the violations of Swaziland's territorial intergrity by South Africa recently. Both men condemned the destabilization of Angola by South Africa and the United States through their support of UNITA bandits.

RSA Sanctions 'Grave Threat'

MB301813 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 30 Dec 86

[Text] The president, Comrade Kaunda, and Prime Minister Robert Mugabe today accused South Africa of having imposed and declared sanctions against Zambia and Zimbabwe. In a communique released at the end of their 1-day summit at the [name indistinct] resort on Zimbabwe's side of Lake Kariba, the two leaders said that sanctions posed a grave threat to their economies and would have to be checked by enhanced economic cooperation. The leaders stressed the need for closer coordination and more expansive and stronger linkages between the economies of Zimbabwe and Zambia with a view of lessening dependence on the South African economy, but at a much faster rate.

Mugabe Outlines Advantages of 1-Party State

MB310659 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has said a 1-party state in Zimbabwe is not aimed at throttling opposition but at avoiding bickering and unnecessary quarreling for power. In an interview with *Police* Magazine, Comrade Mugabe said a 1-party state is a traditional system of oneness in Zimbabwe and the African society. He said a multiparty state is a strange phenomenon to Zimbabwe because of its divisive tendencies. The prime minister pointed out that Zimbabwe will develop faster under a 1-party state. Comrade Mugabe, however, made it clear that Zimbabwe is not in a big hurry to bring about a 1-party state.

Matabeleland Elections Postponed Over Security

MB310721 Harare Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 31 Dec 86

[Text] The minister of local government, rural and urban development, Comrade Ernest Chikowore, has said district council elections in some parts of Matabeleland North are likely to be postponed until the security situation has improved. Comrade Chikowore told *The Herald* that he has received reports that dissidents have intensified their ccampaign against elections in that area. He said the worst affected areas are Hwange, Lupane, Binga, and Nkayi.